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RCAF heads to the airport to WAVE THE FLAG

Members of the Royal Canadian Air Force were on hand during a sign dedication and flag-raising ceremony at the Winnipeg James A. Richardson International Airport on a chilly Thursday afternoon. The iconic Welcome to Winnipeg sign now includes Home of the RCAF and spots for the Canadian, Manitoban and RCAF flags. BERNICE PONTANILLA/METRO

Manitoba's child poverty rate is 'appalling,' says Canadian senator

Failing grade. Report card finds one in five kids live in poverty; province has country's second-highest rate

BERNICE PONTANILLA
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Canada can no longer afford to have children and families in poverty, Sen. Art Eggleton said on Thursday at the release of the 2012 Child and Family Poverty report card.

Eggleton, who co-authored the Senate standing committee report — In From the Margins: A Call to Action on Poverty, Housing and Homelessness — said he came to Winnipeg "from Ottawa this morning to join your cause to eradicate child and family poverty."

"What's in the report is appalling — 20 per cent child poverty here in Manitoba," Eggleton said during a press conference at Winnipeg Harvest.

The report card, authored by the Social Planning Council of Winnipeg, found that one in five Manitoba children live in poverty — the second-highest child poverty rate in Canada.

"What's wrong with this picture? Here we have in a land of plenty, a rich country, we have so many children who go to bed hungry," added Eggleton, who called on the federal government to do more.

"This should not be allowed to happen in this country and we should be ashamed that it's happening in this country."

The report card calls for a $13 per hour minimum wage to lift working people out of poverty and an increase to Manitoba's Employment Income Assistance program to $500 from $200.

David Northcott, executive director of Winnipeg Harvest, said there have been enough reports done and politicians need to act. "Somebody has to ask the question: Who's throwing them in the water in the first place?" said Northcott, adding Harvest serves 54,000 people a month, half of them children.

"Why then can't families sustain themselves in this economy, in this society? Why can't they do it? Maybe the income isn't adequate."

By the numbers

54,000

Winnipeg Harvest serves 54,000 people a month, half of them children, according to executive director David Northcott.

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NEWS

Bargain hunting. Winnipeg police auction off unclaimed goods

Winnipeg police come across a wide variety of things, and many of those items will be sold to the highest bidder this weekend.

The police's unclaimed items auction is this Sunday at Associated Auto Auction Ltd. in Headingley.

"I would imagine a lot of this is stolen and recovered items that nobody's picked up or that insurance has paid for," explained Jeff Noiseux, general manager of Associated Auto Auction Ltd, who advises newbies to take a deep breath before bidding. "It's a lot of fun and sometimes people get excited and end up paying more than they would if they had have gone to the store."

Money raised goes in to the service's general revenue and is used to offset overall police expenses.

Viewing starts at 9 a.m. Sunday and the sale starts at noon.

Go to associatedautoauction.com for a listing of items up for auction, and check out page six in today's Metro for a few of the stranger things on the block.

SHANE GIBSON/METRO

Quote

"It's a lot of fun and sometimes people get excited and end up paying more than they would if they had have gone to the store."

Jeff Noiseux, general manager of Associated Auto Auction Ltd, who advises newbies to take a deep breath before bidding.

Warming huts coming to the Forks

Paul Jordan, chief operator officer of The Forks Renewal Corporation, unveiled the five winning Warming Hut designs chosen to go up along the frozen river trail at the Forks, Thursday. Along with the huts, a music and architecture installation called Sonus Loci created by consulting firm Stantec was also revealed. The huts and installations should be installed by the third week of January next year. SHANE GIBSON/METRO

Mayor writes letter supporting science

Political pressure. Sam Katz to send letter in support of keeping Experimental Lakes Area open

BERNICE PONTANILLA
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Not a motion, but a letter encouraging the continuation of the scientific work at the Experimental Lakes, is what a Winnipeg city councillor was able to secure from Mayor Sam Katz.

Coun. John Orlikow (River Heights-Fort Garry) brought the original motion to the executive policy committee meeting on Wednesday, where he told its members that the research going on at the Experimental Lakes Area (ELA) has implications for Lake Winnipeg.

"Cleaning up Lake Winnipeg and restoring its health is complicated," said Orlikow, referring to the algae blooms plaguing the lake.

"As we move step by step towards a long-run solution for Lake Winnipeg, we are going to need the ongoing research at the ELA to continue to ask the critical questions to fine tune our actions and our efforts if we are to succeed."

Orlikow's original motion fell short of asking the federal government to keep the ELA, located in Northwestern Ontario, in the public sphere and continue funding its $2-million operating budget.

Instead, the motion called upon the feds "to continue to fund and support the Experimental Lakes Project until a suitable source of funding to allow this valuable project to continue is found."

After a brief discussion, Mayor Katz offered to send a letter expressing this wish to Prime Minister Stephen Harper, Environment Minister Peter Kent, and Keith Ashfield, Minister of Fisheries and Oceans.

"I certainly understand the motivation of the federal government of divesting itself from that and hopefully the negotiations that are ongoing right now are successful," said Katz.

"Writing a letter and having that delivered to the minister and the prime minister I think has a lot more value than a motion on the floor of council just before Christmas where no one's going to pay attention to it anyways."

In May, staff at the ELA received layoff notices from the Department of Fisheries and Oceans, reportedly due to federal budget cuts. The ELA is made up of 58 small lakes and their watersheds that have been set aside for research since 1968.

The ELA has provided advice to policy-makers and industry on such issues as harmful algae blooms, acid rain, the impact of hormones in sewage effluent on fish health, evidence that flame retardants degrade into banned toxic chemicals and measures to lower mercury contamination in fish.

It is operated out of the Freshwater Institute in Winnipeg.

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Cancer fundraiser. All the butt jokes you can handle

Just bend over and laugh.

Hosted by local comic Kurt Berger, a new fundraiser called Shut Up and Bend Over features 12 of Winnipeg's funniest people — including veteran Cree comedian Don Burnstick and Rumor's Comedy Club regulars Ryan Ash and Dan Glasswick — with all proceeds from the event going to CancerCare Manitoba for prostate cancer research.

"I imagine it's going to get a little dirty and little greasy and there's going to be a lot of butt jokes, that's a given, but we recognize this is a serious matter and that's why we want to raise money for it," says Nelson Mayer, a Winnipeg comedian and the man responsible for Shut Up and Bend Over.

According to the Canadian Cancer Society, one in seven men will develop prostate cancer in his lifetime, making it the most common form of cancer in the developed world. Mayer says its prevalence was the main reason for picking it as a cause, but also notes the event might help shine a light on Winnipeg's burgeoning comedy community.

'Pegger Nelson Mayer and friends are fundraising for prostate cancer awareness. CONTRIBUTED

"I noticed that a lot of the comedy shows that happen in Winnipeg have the same names over and over again, very funny people of course, but I also know there's a lot of really other funny people in the city," Mayer says.

"I thought it would be good to have a showcase where we could get lesser-known comics some more stage time."

Tickets are $10 at Music Trader and at the door at Pulse Nightclub & Lounge. Showtime is 8:30 p.m. on Friday.

JARED STORY/FOR METRO

Hairy competition. Mo bros, start your beards

As Movember comes to an end, Festival du Voyageur is reminding Winnipeg men that growing season isn't over just yet.

The Festival's 2013 beard-growing contest kicks off next month, and this year the competition has grown to include three categories that will raise money for the Heart & Stroke Foundation.

Categories at the 44th annual celebration of francophone culture include the Festival Beard, where contestants all start clean-shaven and are judged after 10 weeks of growing; the Voyageur Beard where the "wildest and woolliest" beard wins; and the Novelty Beard, which awards top prize to a uniquely-groomed beard or mustache.

Prize

Register early at heho.ca for a chance to win a straight-blade shave by a professional barber from Berns & Black at the launch.

Registration for the Festival Beard category will be held from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Garage Café Dec. 13. Registration is $35, but fees will be waived to beardos who raise $100 or more.

METRO

Winnipeg rock duo Mise en Scene is creating a buzz with its debut full-length album Desire's Despair. CONTRIBUTED

Duo debuts with top producers' help

Mise en Scene. First album climbing Canadian charts

JARED STORY
winnipeg@metronews.ca

Desire's Despair may be the first full-length album from Winnipeg indie rock duo Mise en Scene, but the list of record producers who worked on it is astounding.

Howard Redekopp (Tegan and Sara, The New Pornographers), Ron Obvious (D.O.A., The Subhumans), Howard Bilerman (Arcade Fire) and Tony Berg (Beck) all contributed their production expertise to the album, which currently sits at No. 16 on the earshot Top 50 Canadian campus radio chart.

A new direction

"We wanted to be a little harder, a little edgier and a little rougher around the edges."

Stephanie Blondal Johnson, guitarist and vocalist for Mise en Scene

Guitarist-vocalist Stephanie Blondal Johnson, 26, and drummer Jodi Dunlop, 22, were lucky enough to work with Bilerman and Berg after landing a highly-coveted residency at the Banff Centre for the Arts.

"What an incredible experience," Johnson said. "I can't believe we did that. We were in Banff, one of the most beautiful places in the world, getting to make music for free. That's awesome."

Desire's Despair contains its fair share of outside influence, but make no mistake, it's Johnson and Dunlop's sound.

In June 2011, Mise en Scene made the move from a four-piece to a duo, a transition that brought out the '60s pop, garage rock and punk influences only hinted at on its 2010 EP.

"As a result of (becoming a duo) we've finally got the sound we wanted," Dunlop said.

"Those two (ex-members), they're jazz musicians. That's awesome but they brought something to the table that ... changed the direction of the music we wanted to go in," Johnson says.

"We didn't want to be like that. We wanted to be a little bit harder, a little edgier and a little rougher around the edges. We wanted to rock out, man."

Mise en Scene celebrates the release of Desire's Despair on Saturday at the West End Cultural Centre. Pipe & Hat labelmates The Noble Thiefs open the show. Tickets are $20 at the WECC, Music Trader, the Winnipeg Folk Festival Music Store and Ticketmaster, or $25 at the door. Showtime is 8 p.m.

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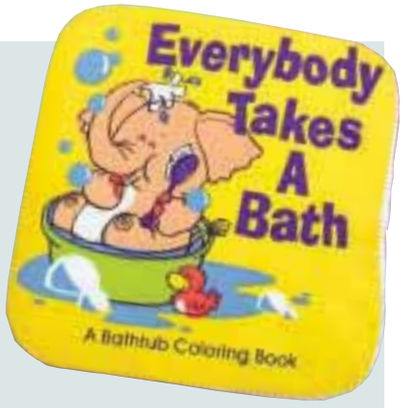
High Five! This Sunday the Winnipeg Police Service will hold an unclaimed goods auction at Associated Auto Auction in Headingley. Here are a few of the odder items up for grabs to the highest bidder (please note: photos are for illustrative purposes only):

SHANE GIBSON
shane.gibson@metronews.ca

5 weird things up for bids at the police auction

1



Children's books including Everybody Takes A Bath

This floating colouring book is for babies to pre-school-aged kids and encourages the young ones to get in the tub. How did it end up in the hands of the police? Your guess is as good as ours.

2

Slightly damaged lion statue

It's a jungle out there. Here's a one-of-a-kind Christmas gift for that hard-to-buy-for person on your list who likes lion statues, but only ones with a bit of patina.

3

Labatt's Blue duffle bag

Complete your collection of items found for free in cases of beer with this classic. It will go perfectly with that toque you picked up at the vendor last week.

4

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5

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Syrians stand near a burning truck that was destroyed by cars bombs in Damascus on Wednesday. Two U.S.-based Internet-monitoring companies say Syria has shut off online access nationwide. Activists in Syria reached Thursday by satellite telephone confirmed the unprecedented blackout. /SANA NEWS AGENCY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Internet shut down in Syria as airport battle rages on

Blackout. Cellphone service also cut in attempt to block communications between rebel forces

The Syrian government shut down the Internet across the country and cut cellphone service in select areas Thursday as rebels and government troops waged fierce battles near the capital's airport, forcing international airlines to suspend flights, activists said.

The Internet blackout, confirmed by two U.S.-based companies that monitor online connectivity, is unprecedented in Syria's 20-month-old uprising against President Bashar Assad. Regime forces have suffered a string of tactical defeats in recent weeks — losing air bases and other strategic facilities — and the blackout may be an attempt by the government to dull any further rebel offensives by hampering communications.

Authorities often cut phone lines and Internet access in areas where regime forces are conducting major military operations to disrupt rebel communications. Activists in Syria reached Thursday by satellite telephone confirmed the blackout.

Renesys, a U.S.-based network security firm that studies Internet disruptions, said in a statement that Syria effectively disappeared from the Internet at 12:26 p.m. local time.

"In the global routing table, all 84 of Syria's IP address blocks have become unreachable, effectively removing the country from the Internet," Renesys said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A council divided

Envoy to Syria says security council key to peace

Divisions in the Security Council are blocking progress toward ending the violence in Syria, and any cease-fire will require an international peacekeeping force, the United Nations envoy for the country said Thursday.

Lakhdar Brahimi said he has the elements for a possible peace plan, but they "cannot be put together until the (Security Council) has come together and is ready to adopt a resolution that will be the basis for a political process."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

U.S. soldier in WikiLeaks case says he felt caged

A U.S. soldier charged in the biggest security breach in the country's history testified Thursday that he felt like a doomed, caged animal after he was arrested in Iraq for allegedly sending classified information to the secret-spilling website WikiLeaks.

Bradley Manning testified on the third day of a pretrial hearing. His lawyers are seeking dismissal of all charges, contending his pretrial confinement in a Marine Corps brig in the U.S. was needlessly harsh.

Before he was sent to the brig in July 2010, Manning spent time in a cell in a segregation tent at Camp Arifjan, an Army installation in Kuwait.

"I remember thinking I'm going to die. I'm stuck inside this cage," a nervous Manning said under questioning by defence attorney David Coombs. "I just thought I was going to die in that cage. And that's how I saw it — an animal cage."

The 24-year-old intelligence analyst is trying to avoid trial. He argues he was punished enough when he was locked up alone in a small cell for nearly nine months in solitary confinement and had to sleep naked for several nights.

The military contends the treatment was proper, given Manning's classification at the time as a maximum-security detainee who posed a risk of injury to himself or others.

Earlier Thursday, a military judge accepted the terms under which Manning would plead guilty to eight lesser charges.

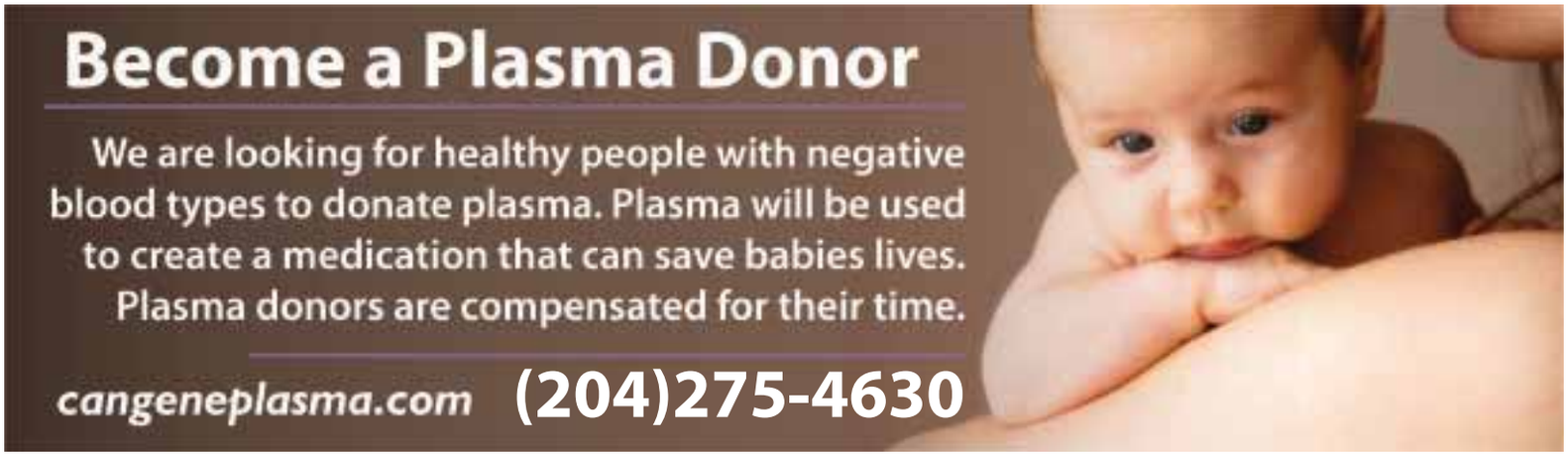
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Pleading guilty

The military judge has approved the language of the offences to which Manning will admit. The offer has not yet been accepted.

- **List of charges:** Under the plea, Manning would admit to sending a battlefield video file, more than 20 Iraq and Afghanistan war logs and wrongfully storing classified information.

Army Pfc. Bradley Manning, centre, steps out of a security vehicle as he is escorted into court in Fort Meade, Md., on Wednesday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS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Palestinians celebrate the UN vote in the West Bank city of Ramallah on Thursday. MAJDI MOHAMMED/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Palestinians win UN statehood

Landslide. Only Canada, U.S., Israel, the Czech Republic, Panama and four tiny island nations opposed

The United Nations voted overwhelmingly Thursday to recognize a Palestinian state, a long-sought victory for the Palestinians and a diplomatic defeat for the United States.

The resolution upgrading the Palestinians' status to a nonmember observer state at the UN was approved by a vote of 138-9, with 41 abstentions.

A Palestinian flag was quickly unfurled on the floor of the General Assembly, behind the Palestinian delegation. In the West Bank city of Ramallah, hundreds crowded into the main square, waved flags and chanted "God is great."

Real independence, however, remains elusive until the Palestinians negotiate a peace deal with the Israelis, who warned that the UN action will only delay a lasting solution. Israel still controls the West Bank, east Jerusalem and access to Gaza and it accused the Palestinians of bypassing negotiations with the campaign.

The Palestinians still face enormous limitations. They don't control their borders, airspace or trade, they have competing governments in Gaza and the West Bank and they have no unified army or police.

The U.S. immediately criticized the vote. "Today's unfortunate and counterproductive resolution places further obstacles in the path to peace," Ambassador Susan Rice said.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said the UN move violated past agreements and that Israel would act accordingly.

The Palestinians can now access UN agencies and international bodies, most significantly the International Criminal Court, which could become a springboard for going after Israel for alleged war crimes or its settlements on war-won land. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Domestic take

Canada considers retaliation

Foreign Affairs Minister John Baird denounced the UN General Assembly Thursday for its "utterly regrettable decision" to allow the vote.

Baird also suggested Canada will take retaliatory measures against the Palestinians for forcing the issue onto the world stage. He didn't say what, but the obvious option would be suspending aid.

Baird said Canada was voting against the initiative because "we are firmly convinced (it) will undermine the objective of reaching a comprehensive, lasting and just settlement."

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Ice sheets playing larger role in rising sea levels

Climate change. Melting ice now responsible for 40 per cent of overall sea-level rise, up from 20 per cent in the '90s

Surface melt water rushes along the surface of the Greenland Ice Sheet through a supra-glacial stream channel. IAN JOUGHIN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

A study believed to be the most comprehensive ever done of the planet's ice sheets shows that, overall, they are melting faster and faster.

And as world leaders meet in Doha, Qatar, to discuss responses to climate change, the paper published Thursday in the journal Science shows the loss of ice from Greenland and the Antarctic is making an ever-greater contribution to rising sea levels.

"It's an observation with sufficient certainty to tell people the changes in the polar ice sheets are very much in line with what we expect those changes in climate to produce," said co-author Andrew Shepherd of the University of Leeds.

Shepherd was one of an international team of 47 scientists who combined a wide array of data from 10 satellite missions and other sources to provide the clearest picture yet of what has been happening with the massive sheets of ancient ice that help anchor Earth's climate at both ends.

Overall, the sheets have lost about 4,250 gigatonnes of ice since 1992, enough to raise the average sea level around the globe by 11 millimetres.

That may not sound like much, but Erik Ivins of California's Jet Propulsion Laboratory says it's enough to matter.

"When you have 11 millimetres of increased sea level, if you compute the amount of mass that's capable of coming on shore during storm surge, it's a lot of mass," he said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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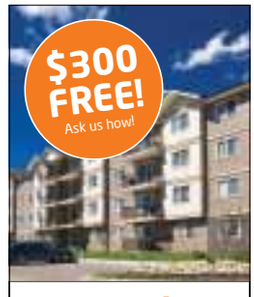

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Caught at border

Cult kids return home to Canada

Ten children, aged two through seven, who were allegedly living in Arizona with followers of a self-styled guru have been returned to Quebec and placed in youth protection. Two more returned to B.C. and another two are still missing.

Marcel Pontbriand of Beloeil, Que., led the cult, which allegedly separated kids from their parents.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Biohazard

Man jailed for syringe assaults

A Quebec man who hid dirty syringes in clothing at a shopping mall has been sentenced to four years in jail.

Claude Letourneau had pleaded guilty to 32 counts of theft, assault with a weapon causing harm and assault with a weapon.

Several shoppers were pricked by the needles and had to undergo drug treatment.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Salvation Army

Second charged in $2M toy theft

A second person has been charged in connection with the theft of 100,000 toys and other items from a Salvation Army warehouse in Toronto, police said Thursday.

Umaish Ramrattan, 61, of Ajax, Ont., faces 40 charges, including several counts of theft and possession of stolen property, and is to appear in court on Jan. 4.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Espionage

Warrants for spy to be released

The federal Crown has consented to unsealing redacted versions of three search warrants used to obtain evidence against a navy officer who pleaded guilty last month to passing military secrets to Russia.

Sub-Lt. Jeffrey Paul Delisle pleaded guilty in October to passing information to a foreign entity and breach of trust for selling classified information. He will be sentenced Jan. 10.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Quebec holds blood for fear of contamination

Concern at provincial blood supply agency. Tiny cracks in the packaging may have been the result of a manufacturing defect

Quebec's health minister offered assurances to patients on Thursday after the agency that oversees blood supplies in the province temporarily suspended use of some of its stock.

The problem has led to the postponement of some operations throughout the province.

"There is no contamination of the blood in Quebec," Health Minister Rejean Hebert told reporters in Quebec City.

"There is a problem with some batches of blood that could be contaminated, and we have withdrawn those batches of blood to be sure there's no problem."

Hebert insisted there is no risk to patients, adding that the agency, Hema-Quebec, has the reserves necessary to fulfil the needs of hospitals.

A Montreal health services spokeswoman said some elective surgeries at five area hospitals were delayed, including heart operations at three major Montreal hospitals.

A spokesman for Hema-Quebec said there was a problem with the equipment used to keep blood. Tiny cracks were found in some packaging used to store blood stock at a Montreal holding facility.

Laurent-Paul Menard said the blood, some of which had already been distributed to hospitals, risked being exposed to air, which creates favourable conditions for bacteria.

Menard said about 70 per cent of the agency's stock might be held for examination.

Hema-Quebec suggested the leaks in the bags appeared to have been a manufacturing defect. THE CANADIAN PRESS

A bag of blood is shown at a Montreal clinic on Thursday. Exposure to air could make a portion of the supply unusable. RYAN REMIORZ/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Suspended

70%

The amount of the agency's blood stock that might be held for examination due to fears of bacterial contaminants

On the web

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N.Y. cop praised as an officer and a gentleman

Kindness goes viral.
Police officer buys boots for barefoot homeless man on frigid November night

A tourist's snapshot of a New York City police officer giving new boots to a barefoot homeless man in Times Square has created an online sensation.

Jennifer Foster, of Arizona, was visiting New York with her boyfriend on Nov. 14, when she came across the shoeless man asking for change in Times Square. As she was about to approach him, she said the officer — identified as Larry DePrimo — came up to the man with a pair of all-weather boots and thermal socks on the frigid night. She recorded his generosity on her cellphone.

DePrimo, speaking to reporters on Thursday, remembered the night clearly, that even with two pairs of socks on, his feet were freezing.

This screenshot taken from Facebook shows policeman Larry DePrimo giving boots to a homeless man.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The homeless man "didn't even have a pair of socks on and I could only imagine how cold that pavement was," the 25-year-old said.

Foster's photo was posted Tuesday night to the NYPD's official Facebook page and became an instant hit. More than 420,000 users "liked" it as of Thursday evening, and more than 140,000 shared it.

Thousands of people commented, including one person who praised him as "An officer AND a Gentleman."

The photo shows the officer kneeling beside the man with the boots at his feet. A shoe store is seen in the background.

"I have these size 12 boots for you, they are all-weather. Let's put them on and take care of you," Foster quoted DePrimo as saying to the man.

She wrote: "The officer squatted down on the ground and proceeded to put socks and the new boots on this man. The officer expected NOTHING in return and did not know I was watching." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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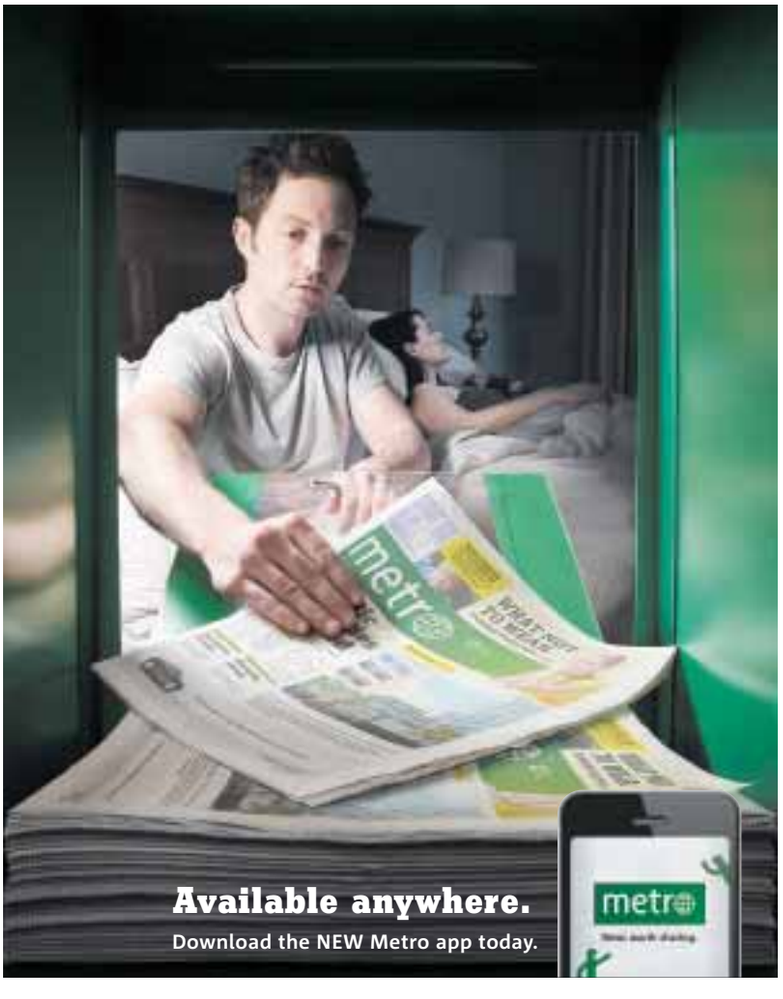

Enbridge fire 'preventable,' watchdog says

Ontario. National Energy Board's report on 2009 incident comes as company seeks approval for $6B Northern Gateway project

The National Energy Board says poor oversight and communication were to blame for an Enbridge natural gas pipeline fire west of Toronto more than three years ago.

In September 2009, a contractor was working on the line in Mississauga, Ont., and damaged part of it, causing gas to escape and ignite. A flame shot up 50 metres into the air.

"Examination of the evidence, documents gathered, and interviews conducted indicate that the incident was preceded by a number of contributing conditions and unsafe acts," the NEB said in a report released this week.

No one was hurt in the fire and the environmental impact was limited, but a building, vehicles and construction equipment were damaged. Nearby businesses, including a strip mall and daycare, were evacuated as a precaution.

In the report, the federal energy watchdog says the incident was "preventable."

"Though no people were injured and the incident resulted in minimal impacts to public safety, the environment or the economy, the potential impact of an event of this magnitude cannot be ignored," it said.

Enbridge spokeswoman Chris Meyer said the company is reviewing the NEB's findings.

"Safety is our priority and after the incident we reviewed what happened and we've implemented changes to help prevent a similar situation from occurring again," she said.

The NEB says Enbridge's gas distribution unit did not have a copy of its safety manual on site and didn't adequately communicate hazards to contracted workers or make sure they were following proper procedures.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Consequences

- Both Enbridge and the contractor have pleaded guilty to violations under the Ontario Occupational Health and Safety Act.
- The Ontario Court of Justice has sentenced each to a $50,000 fine.

What's their beef? Low wages, no union

Protesters, many of them employees at Wendy's, demonstrate outside of one of the restaurants to demand higher pay and the right to form a union on Thursday in New York City. The campaign, called Fast Food Forward, organized protests at other New York fast-food establishments. The group seeks to double hourly pay to $15 US an hour. SPENCER PLATT/GETTY IMAGES

On the up

Top 5 automakers on track to bring in record profit this year: Scotiabank

The world's five-largest automakers are on track to post the industry's most profitable year on record — continuing an upward trend that is likely to continue for some time, according to a report from Scotiabank.

Based on profits recorded over the first nine months of the year, Scotiabank estimates the global auto giants are headed for a combined US$61.4 billion in profit this year.

That's a huge rebound from the industry downturn sparked four years ago by a credit crisis in the U.S. banking sector.

The report says investors and corporate officials are worried about the industry's deteriorating prospects in Western Europe, but that's offset by the growing importance of developing markets.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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New body needed to corral press: U.K. judge

Media ethics inquiry. PM objects to report's key recommendation, citing free-speech infringement concerns

Britain's unruly newspapers should be regulated by an independent body dominated by non-journalists with the power to levy steep fines, a judge said Thursday in a report that pleased victims of tabloid intrusion but left editors worrying about creeping state control of the country's fiercely independent press.

Prime Minister David Cameron echoed concerns about government interference, expressing misgivings about a key recommendation of the report — that the new regulator be enshrined in law.

He called on the much criticized press to show it could control itself by implementing the judge's proposals quickly — and without political involvement.

"I'm proud of the fact that we've managed to survive hundreds of years without state regulation," he said.

Lord Justice Brian Leveson issued his 2,000-page report at the end of a media ethics inquiry triggered by a scandal over tabloid phone hacking that expanded to engulf senior figures in politics, the police and Rupert Murdoch's media empire.

His key recommendation was to create a new print media regulator, which he said should be established in law to prevent more people being hurt by "outrageous" press behaviour that had "wreaked havoc with the lives of innocent people whose rights and liberties have been disdained."

Cameron, under intense pressure from both sides of an issue that has divided his own Conservative Party, welcomed Leveson's proposal for a new regulator and said "the status quo is not an option."

But he said that asking legislators to enshrine it in law meant "crossing the Rubicon of writing elements of press regulation into the law of the land."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Not just a few bad apples

While many editors have denied knowing about phone hacking, Lord Justice Brian Leveson said it "was far more than a covert, secret activity, known to nobody save one or two practitioners of the 'dark arts.'"

In 2,000-page report on the ethics of the British media released Thursday, Lord Justice Brian Leveson said the press should be regulated by a new body with much stronger powers than the current Press Complaints Commission. GETTY IMAGES FILE

Hostess Brands. Court approves Twinkie maker's bankruptcy — including executive bonuses

Hostess Brands Inc. got final approval for its wind-down plans in bankruptcy court Thursday, setting the stage for its iconic snack cakes to find a second life with new owners — even as 18,000 jobs will be wiped out.

The company said in court that it's in talks with 110 potential buyers for its brands, which include CupCakes, Ding Dongs and Ho Hos. The suitors include at least five national retailers such as supermarkets, a financial adviser for Hostess said.

The process has been "so fast and furious" Hostess wasn't able to make its planned calls to potential buyers, said Joshua Scherer of Perella Weinberg Partners.

"Not only are these buyers serious, but they are expecting to spend substantial sums," he said, noting that six of them had hired investment banks to help in the process.

The update on the sale process came as Hostess also received approval to give its top executives bonuses totalling up to $1.8 million US for meeting certain budget goals to bring down costs during the liquidation. The company says the incentive pay is needed to retain the 19 corporate officers and "high-level managers" during the wind down process, which could take about a year.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

By the numbers

$125K

The bonuses do not include pay for CEO Gregory Rayburn, who was brought on as a restructuring expert earlier this year. Rayburn is being paid $125,000 US a month.

Market Minute

DOLLAR
100.73¢
(-0.09¢)

TSX 12,202.85 (+62.52)

OIL $88.07 US (+$1.58)

GOLD $1,729.50 US (+$10.70)

Natural gas: $3.65 US (-15¢)
Dow Jones: 13,021.82 (+36.71)

XL Foods

Same rules apply to meat for export, domestic markets: Inspection agency

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency says the same safety standards apply to meat for domestic consumption and for overseas exports, and that reports to the contrary are "categorically false."

The embattled federal food safety agency is reacting to a media report that inspectors at the XL Foods processing plant in Brooks, Alta., were told to ignore contamination on cattle carcasses unless they were destined for Japan.

A memo to inspectors, dated September 2008, instructs them to ensure all "Japan-eligible" beef has been 100 per cent verified for removal of fecal, intestinal and spinal cord materials. The same memo tells inspectors at the Japan Dura Mater station on the production line to ignore such contamination for meat not destined for Japan.

But a spokeswoman for the agency says the memo was about division of labour, and that the Japan inspection station was not the end of the line.

Lisa Gauthier of the CFIA says in a release that there is "zero tolerance for any form of contamination" and that there are multiple points of detection along the processing line.

XL Foods was the scene of the largest beef recall in Canadian history this fall after meat contaminated with E. coli was stopped at the Canadian-American border in September.

People in at least four provinces were found to have been made ill by the E. coli strain and the XL plant only reopened at the end of October. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Record annual profit

Royal Bank reports $1.9B net earnings in fourth quarter

The Royal Bank reported a record annual profit for its latest year, including $1.9 billion in the fourth quarter, powered by its personal banking business.

The first of Canada's big banks to report its fourth-quarter results said personal and commercial banking business earnings topped $1 billion for the quarter. Chief executive Gord Nixon said the bank would use its size to continue to grow despite expectations for the pace to slow. "While we anticipate that the strong growth in consumer lending that we experienced this year will moderate, we continue to have good momentum in the higher margin commercial business," he said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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GOT MILKED? 'UDDERLY' AMAZING VIDEO GOES VIRAL

THE LIST
Neil Morton
metronews.ca

1 Leafs worth $1 billion. The Toronto Maple Leafs franchise is now worth a whopping $1 billion, according to Forbes, making them the first team in the NHL to hit that figure. It's like the longer the Leafs go playing mediocre hockey and not making the playoffs, the more the brand is worth! Enough already.

2 TipMine. From how to take a perfect basketball shot, to dealing with arthritis, to tricks to beating nail-biting, a new Canadian website called TipMine has advice on just about everything. And you can even submit your own text or video tips to share with others. So stop biting your nails and check it out.

3 #Babynames. A couple named their newborn Like after Facebook last year, and this week it was revealed a couple who are obviously big Twitter fans apparently named their baby girl Hashtag — full name Hashtag Jameson. Just you wait: Someone in 2013 will name their baby Pinning after Pinterest.

4 The smile epidemic. A social-innovation project based out of Waterloo, Ont., focuses on making people and organizations happy. The Smile Epidemic (@Smile__Epidemic on Twitter) suggests that doing simple things that make you smile for 30 days can change the way you look at the world. Go to TheSmileEpidemic.com to find out how to participate. And give a smile today.

5 Coldplay. Many fans got a rush of blood to the head when the band announced it's taking a long break from touring. "This is the last big show for three years or so," the band's leader Chris Martin said at a recent show. Maybe Martin wants to spend more time with wife Gwyneth Paltrow having date nights in, listening to Coldplay songs like The Scientist.

6 150 Shades Of Play. Sexperts Em and Lo are releasing a new book, 150 Shades of Play: A Beginner's Guide to Kink, an A-to-Z manual that serves as kind of a companion piece to the Fifty Shades of Grey trilogy — but with real advice and quality writing. It's already working: I am cuffed to a bed wearing a kinky costume talking dirty as I dictate this to my wife.

7 Chris Brown. Imagine a Twitterverse free of Chris Brown? Well, that's the Christmas gift the R&B singer with massive anger issues gave us by deleting his account after sending misogynistic, violent tweets at comedian Jenny Johnson in response to much tamer tweets Johnson directed his way. Fingers crossed he never reactivates it.

8 Milking. The new planking is milking, which involves pouring containers of milk over your head in a public place. It originated with dudes in Newcastle, England. I think I did this as a submission move during a food fight in my high-school cafeteria in Peterborough, Ont., in 1988. So these Newcastle dudes totally ripped me off. They just weren't born yet to know it. The video now has almost half a million views. Watch the hilarity at metronews.ca.

9 Jenna Marbles. If you haven't heard of entertainer/comedian Jenna Mourey, a.k.a. Jenna Marbles, you must check out her YouTube channel, which has nearly five million subscribers. With her (profanity-laced) social-commentary vids like Things I Don't Understand About Girls, and Apps Are Ruining My Life, she is hysterical fun.

10 Google's Mr. Dressup. Google Canada celebrated the 85th birthday of the late Ernie "Mr. Dressup" Coombs on Monday by placing a doodle of him on google.ca, with puppets Casey and Finnegan. Mr. Dressup was an iconic Canadian children's show that ran from 1967 to 1996. If you want to know more about Ernie Coombs and his place in pop culture, google him.

11 Lindsay Lohan. The train wreck that is Lindsay Lohan had another normal week in the life that is Lindsay Lohan: She got arrested. Yes, late Wednesday night, she was arrested for allegedly punching a woman at an N.Y.C. nightclub. This girl needs the world's largest intervention ever.

Tiny egg no small potatoes

OWEN HUMPHREYS/PA

Record-breaking egg

Man thinks he has smallest hen egg

A bed-and-breakfast owner who believes he has found the world's smallest hen's egg confessed he took it in his pocket to show his pals at the pub.

Paul Rae found the dime-sized egg on Sunday alongside three normal ones in his henhouse at the business he runs with his wife, Margaret, in Humshaugh, Northumberland, northeast England.

METRO

Owner's viewpoint

"After I found it I had a quick look online, then I took it to the pub. My friends said I should get in touch with the Guinness Book of Records."

Paul Rae, 52, owner of the Walwick Farm House bed and breakfast
Rae admitted he keeps his prized find more safely now. "I don't carry it in my pocket now; it's wrapped in cotton wool," he said.

Other contender

Rival egg hopes to break record first

Rae's discovery comes at the same time Harry Evans found an egg that he claimed was barely larger than a dime at his farm near the market town of Bakewell, Derbyshire, central England.

"(Evans') weighed 7.3 grams but mine was just five grams," Rae said. "It's certainly not longer than 2.5 centimetres, which his was — it's less than that in length."

METRO

Egg-laying business

Hen that laid egg remains a mystery

Now Rae is hoping to beat Evans to the record books.

"There is no category for the world's smallest chicken egg as far as I know, so I am going to try and get it recorded," Rae said.

Yet sadly he doesn't know which of his four Lohmann Brown hens, named after his wife as Margaret's Girls, spawned the now-famous egg.

METRO

Metropolitan Panel

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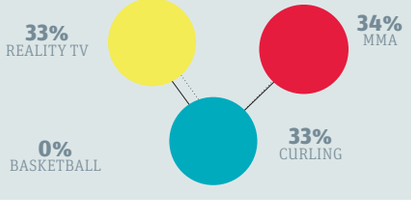
With the hockey lockout, what are you watching a lot more of?



Twitter

@RagRichBri: don't worry, the entire city of winnipeg can fit into that Ikea, no need to wait for hours outside

@RaYWinnipeg: The amount of people that camped out for #Ikeawinnipeg last night is about the same number of youths that "camp out" every night. #Winnipeg

@alliegarnham: Portage to Brandon = waaay worse then Portage to Winnipeg #worst-drive #somuchlonger #balogna

@KrisInnes: You know your city is in the stone age when pedestrian crossing lights with countdown timers are a news worthy pilot project #Winnipeg

@sherisedanielle: Why tf do I have to live in winnipeg ? I wanna be somewhere it's +25 not -25

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Photos courtesy of Dwayne Larson Photography

BACONFEST II

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Keira Knightley wears imperialist Russian style well in Anna Karenina. HANDOUT

Reel Guys

RICHARD CROUSE AND MARK BRESLIN

To Russia, with love

Anna Karenina. Luxe setting, costumes and Keira Knightley's cheekbones make for a screenplay that felt a bit too staged

Richard: Mark, the story itself is rather simple and has been told many times, so what distinguishes this version, aside from the cast (more on that later), is the sumptuous staging. Every frame of the film drips with beauty, from the sets to the clothes to Knightley's cheekbones. But that's to be expected from a big retelling of the story. What really captures my eye — and mind — is the unconventional way director Joe Wright has chosen to tell the tale. What did you think of the mix of reality and fantasy?

Mark: I think Joe Wright, to his credit, wanted to take the stiffness out of a classic. Setting the movie in a theatre is an unusual move, which makes it feel intimate but also a bit claustrophobic and gimmicky. Perhaps he was trying to say that people in pre-revolutionary Russia were forced to play their social roles and this is the undoing of Karenina. The theatre setting allows for some breathtaking transitions but sometimes left me scratching my head.

RC: It's a risky bit of staging to be sure, but I imagined I was watching an Anna Karenina opera, with all the implied drama and grandeur, but none of the music. I think it's a brilliant piece of staging for a story that has enough passion and tragedy for two operas. What did you think of Knightley? She has a face meant to be framed by fur hats and veils, but apart from looking the part, she carefully modulates Anna's descent from socialite to outcast with grace and dignity while allowing notes of frustration and misery to seep through.

MB: Your comment about music is interesting to me because at times I thought the actors were just about to break into song! I thought Knightley, who has to carry the movie, has the evanescent presence of a great silent movie actress. It was Vronsky (Aaron Taylor-Johnson) that felt miscast. He should be fatally dashing, but he just seems callow and expressionless. He's just not seductive enough to make me believe Anna would throw her life away for him. Jude Law, on the other hand, is perfect as the wronged husband. And it took a lot of guts for him to sport that hairline.

RC: You got that right. He does leave his matinee idol days behind with that haircut. I also liked Matthew Macfadyen, whose élan and rakish charm turns the womanizing Oblonsky into one of the film's high spots.

Synopsis

Russian writer Leo Tolstoy's classic story set in imperialist Russia begins with a family in tatters because of marital transgression. St. Petersburg aristocrat and socialite Anna Karenina (Keira Knightley) travels to Moscow to visit her womanizing brother Oblonsky (Matthew Macfadyen) and his long-suffering wife Dolly (Kelly Macdonald). Her counsel saves their marriage, but the trip proves to be the undoing of hers.

- Richard: ●●●●○
- Mark: ●●●○○

MB: There's great wit from a screenplay by Tom Stoppard and a sumptuous production design, but in the end — wow! — can Keira Knightley rock a hoop skirt.

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Gerard Butler talks Playing For Keeps and men in the throes of midlife crisis

Rom com. Actor can relate to film's character — a former soccer star who causes chaos around him

ANNE BRODIE
scene@metronews.ca

In Playing For Keeps, Gerard Butler is an ex-soccer star trying to get his life back together in small town America. HANDOUT

Gerard Butler produced and stars in Playing for Keeps, a romantic comedy about an ex-international soccer star who returns to small-town America, where his son and estranged wife live.

As George discovers and Butler knows, being famous can create problems.

"You get that as an actor in my position," says Butler.

"You can cause a bit of chaos even with the best intentions wherever you go. (My character) George is chaotic on the inside and he causes chaos wherever he goes, but he's trying his best to take the right path. That right path is often blocked by those who would like to get their claws into him because he's an appealing character and yet in himself he doesn't feel that at all. That's what's interesting about him," he says.

Catherine Zeta-Jones and Uma Thurman don't work often. How did you lure them back?

I was kind of surprised myself. They were fun roles for them to get into, they are juicy comedic crazy roles and yet they speak to you in a way that's relatable. People get those characters, where they're coming from.... That's what I loved about this movie.

What wisdom do you have for men in a midlife crisis?

For a man, it's about growing up.

You want to keep the child in you, but at the same time you've got those quick fixes and learn about commitment and sacrificing something and ultimately going beyond distraction and love (to) family (and) career. ... But that's tough because in this life we live there are so many temptations and distractions and you can't deny it, they're fun and exciting. I'm thinking, 'Yes, that's it.'

I'm finally growing up and then for a long period of time I'm thinking I have no purpose, no real maturity, and I'm not handling my responsibilities very well.

As one of the Sexiest Man Alive (2004) any words for Channing Tatum?

That was a long time ago! Just be yourself and you're judged on that. If you have to try, it's pretty sad. I'm sure Tatum didn't have to try.

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GIVE THE GIFT OF SPORT
Jumpstart

Thriller

Killing Them Softly

Director. Andrew Dominik

Stars. Brad Pitt, James Gandolfini

Brad Pitt stalks around New Orleans as a hitman in Andrew Dominik's thriller, which drains the juice out of its underworld scenario by reminding us at every turn that it's actually an allegory about the American economy. The film is twisty and violent but also insufferably pretentious; it acts as if it's the first movie to equate crime and corporate thinking, when it's actually just the latest in a long line.

ADAM NAYMAN

Filmmaker learns the hard way to Beware of Mr. Baker

Documentary. Jay Bulger delves into the personal life of Cream's explosive drummer Ginger Baker, and ends up with a broken nose

PAT HEALY
Metro World News in Boston

Jay Bulger deliberated about how much of a part he should play in Beware of Mr. Baker. The writer and director's debut documentary focuses on the impulsive and explosive life of drummer Ginger Baker, who is best known as the thunderous beat behind Cream, the 1960s band that defined the term "supergroup." It might at first seem superfluous to include the personal story of the filmmaker, especially because Baker is such a one-of-a-kind character whose history is dense with so much unabashed sex, drugs, rock 'n' roll and violence. But some of those forces inevitably leaked into Bulger's own life while making the film.

"I was like, 'God, I'm there so much and you hear my voice, I should probably show who I am,'" says the filmmaker. "And then when he broke my nose with a cane, I thought that was such an indicative moment of who he is and how he deals with people."

The assault begins and ends the doc, but between these personal bookends, Baker tells of a troubled childhood and how he escaped through an enchantment with rhythm and, soon after, heroin. Both are constants during his meteoric rise to fame and many falls from such dizzying heights.

Lounging in a leather chair in his South African home, Baker often berates Bulger. "It's like boxing," says Bulger. "Sometimes you've got to take a couple punches before you can get inside."

And he does get inside. The drummer opens up about the bridges he has burned between family and friends. Then Bulger interviews those same people, including bandmates Eric Clapton, Jack Bruce and Steve Winwood. That Bulger would do this is why Baker hits him.

"I loved the challenge of doing a movie about somebody who is so potentially unlikable," says the filmmaker. "As much as you want to hate him, you've got to love him because he still keeps going," says Bulger, "and he never compromises."

Quoted

"Sometimes you've got to take a couple punches before you can get inside"

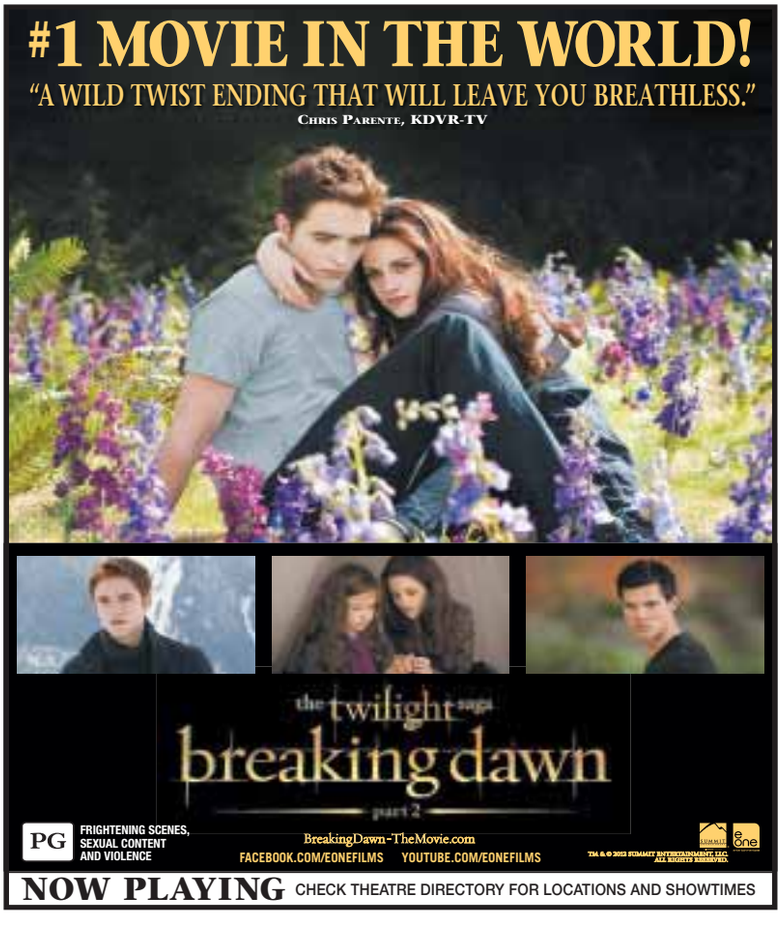
Jay Bulger on putting up with Ginger Baker's abuse during filming

Cream drummer Ginger Baker is the subject of a new doc. GETTY IMAGES

Quoted

"I'm definitely past halfway... I think about it very much as a father. You just want to be around to see (your children) do everything. If I have so many days left, how am I filling those days? I've been agonizing over that one a bit like I never have before."

Brad Pitt, who stars in the new film Killing Them Softly, on his career and turning 49 in December.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



JUMPSTART HAS GIVEN OVER 500,

JUMPSTART INVESTS $12 MILLION ACROSS CANADA

Canadian Tire Jumpstart has reached a monumental milestone: The national charity has helped more than 500,000 children across Canada between the ages of four and 18 take part in organized sports and recreation since its inception in 2005.

"This is a celebratory and significant milestone," says Bal Gosal, Canada's minister of sport. "Physical activity and access to sports for our kids is key to a healthier, stronger country. Canadian Tire Jumpstart is making a real difference in the lives of many young Canadians."

Thanks to generous donations as well as support from the Canadian Tire Corporation, dealers as well as vendors, Jumpstart has helped half a million kids participate in 78 different activities, from swimming and hockey to football and dance. By the end of 2012, Jumpstart will distribute $12 million back into Canadian communities to help kids who otherwise could not participate in having a sporting chance.

Jumpstart is unique in its ability to work in every community across Canada with 315 local chapters created and managed by volunteers and caring Canadian citizens. These chapters work closely with more than 2,400 community partners to identify families with financial needs whose children would benefit from participating in the programs. It is a perfect formula for a national charity to help at the local level.

So how can ordinary Canadians help the one in three families that can't afford to pay the fees for organized sport and recreation programs? There are many ways to get involved. One hundred per cent of donations made at any Canadian Tire, Canadian Tire Petroleum or Mark's locations remain directly in your community. Or, one way this holiday season is to go online and donate to the Jumpstart Symbolic Giving Program; there's no better gift to give than the chance for a child to enrol in a season of sport and recreation.

Last Christmas, instead of exchanging gifts with her Canadian Women's Hockey League Toronto Furies' teammates, goaltender Sami Jo Small and the other players pitched in to buy a $200 Canadian Tire Jumpstart hockey registration for a Canadian child who wanted to play the sport they love but wasn't financially able.

"We plan to do it again this year," says Small, the three-time Olympic women's hockey team champion who is also a Canadian Tire Jumpstart ambassador. "You don't have to spend a lot to make a big difference in a child's life."

The momentum behind Jumpstart is awe-inspiring. "Our vision is more than getting children involved in sports and recreation — it's to have a country where all kids have a chance to fulfill their dreams," says Johnny Misley, the president of Canadian Tire Jumpstart.

Jumpstart

GIVE THE GIFT OF SPORT

1 in 3 families can't afford to enrol their kids in orga
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Jumpstart.canadiantire

Jumpstart

JUMPSTART HELPS CANADIAN KIDS' DREAMS COME TRUE

For more than 800 kids in Winnipeg, the term CSI doesn't conjure up visions of a popular TV show. In this case, it stands for Community School Investigators, a five-week summer program operated by the Boys and Girls Club of Winnipeg.

"We developed the program to help give underprivileged kids a physical and academic boost over the summer months," says Ron Brown, the president and CEO of Boys and Girls Clubs of Winnipeg. "That way, when they return to school in the fall, they'll have the opportunity to perform better." Being prepared both academically and physically provides a solid foundation for the students to lead a healthy and active lifestyle. To help with the physical aspect, each of the 880 kids who participated in CSI last summer received something extra: A new pair of athletic shoes thanks to a generous donation by Sport Chek through Canadian Tire Jumpstart.

The donation is the largest of its kind the Boys and Girls Club has ever received. "It's something that a lot of our students couldn't afford to buy on their own," says Brown. "It will really help the kids in the coming year."

– Tom Mason

One way to give this holiday is through Jumpstart's Symbolic Giving Program, which allows you to give the gift of a season of sport to a child in need. From hockey lessons for $200 to swimming lessons for $75, find the perfect holiday gift.

For more information on Jumpstart or on how to donate or apply, please visit Jumpstart.canadiantire.ca or call 1-877-616-6600.

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*Approximate figures for 2012 YTD.

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JUMPSTART.CANADIANTIRE.CA
Jumpstart

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Winnipeg

Cinema City McGillivray 2190 McGillivray Blvd., 204-269-9981

Flight (18A) Fri 3:55-7:15-10:35 Sat-Sun 12:40-3:55-7:15-10:35 Mon-Tue 3:55-7:15-10:35 Wed 3:55-10:35 Thu 3:55-7:15-10:35
Jesus Christ Superstar UK Spectacular (STC) Sun 12:55 Wed 7
Killing Them Softly (18A) Fri 5:45-8:20-10:40 Sat-Sun 1-3:25-5:45-8:20-10:40 Mon-Thu 3:30-5:45-8:20-10:40
Life of Pi 3D (PG) Fri 6:30-9:50 Sat-Sun 12:25-3:20-6:30-9:50 Mon-Thu 3:50-7:05-10:05 Fri 6-9:30 Sat-Sun 2:30-6-9:30 Mon-Thu 5-8:30
Red Dawn (14A) Fri 3:50-6:10-8:25-11 Sat 1:30-3:45-6:10-8:25-11 Sun 3:45-6:10-8:25-11 Mon 4:10-10:15 Tue-Thu 4:10-7:20-10:15
Rise of the Guardians (G) Sat-Sun 12:10
Rise of the Guardians 3D (G) Fri 5:15-7:45-10:15 Sat-Sun 2:40-5:15-7:45-10:15 Mon-Thu 4:15-6:55-9:35
Skyfall (14A) Fri 4-7:10-10:50 Sat-Sun 12:35-3:50-7:10-10:50 Mon-Thu 3:35-6:50-10:10 Fri 7-10:30 Sat-Sun 3:30-7-10:30 Mon-Thu 7-10:30
The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 2 (14A) Fri 5:30-8:10-10:45 Sat-Sun 12:15-2:55-5:30-8:10-10:45 Mon-Thu 4:35-7:40-10:20 Fri 5-8-11:10 Sat-Sun 4:30-8-11:10 Mon-Thu 6-9:30
Wreck-It Ralph (G) Sat-Sun 12:20
Wreck-It Ralph 3D (G) Fri 5:25-7:55-10:25 Sat-Sun 2:50-5:25-7:55-10:25 Mon-Wed 4:45-7:30-10 Thu 4:45-7:30-9:55

Cinema City Northgate 1399 McPhillips Street, 204-334-6234

24/7 in Love (PG) Fri 7:10-10 Sat-Sun 1:40-4:20-7:10-10 Mon-Thu 5:40-8:30
Alex Cross (18A) Fri 7-9:20 Sat-Sun 2:10-4:30-7-9:20 Mon-Thu 5:40-8
Brave 3D (PG) Fri 7:20 Sat-Sun 2:30-4:50-7:20 Mon-Thu 5:30
Dredd 3D (18A) Fri 9 Sat-Sun 10:10 Mon-Thu 7:30
Ice Age: Continental Drift 3D (G) Fri 6:30 Sat-Sun 1:20-3:30-5:40-8 Mon-Thu 5:10
Jab Tak Hai Jaan (PG) Fri 8:30 Sat-Sun 1:20-5:20-9 Mon-Thu 7:30
The Man With the Iron Fists (18A) Fri 7:40-10:20 Sat-Sun 2:20-5:30-7:40-10:20 Mon-Thu 5:30-7:40
Resident Evil: Retribution 3D (14A) Fri 7:30-9:50 Sat-Sun 2:20-4:40-7:30-9:50 Mon-Thu 5:50-8:10
Sinister (14A) Fri-Sun 9:40 Mon-Thu 7:50
Talaash (14A) Fri 6:50-9:45 Sat-Sun 1-3:50-6:50-9:45 Mon-Thu 5:20-8:20

Cinematheque 304-100 Arthur, 204-925-3457

100 Yen: The Japanese Arcade Experience (STC) Sat 9 Sun 7
The Hanging Garden (STC) Wed 7
No Films Showing Today (STC) Fri Mon-Tue Thu
Side by Side (STC) Sat 7 Sun 2

The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 2. HANDOUT

City Cinema - Northgate 1399 McPhillips, 204-334-6234

24/7 in Love (PG) Fri 7:10-10 Sat-Sun 1:40-4:20-7:10-10 Mon-Thu 5:40-8:30
Alex Cross (18A) Fri 7-9:20 Sat-Sun 2:10-4:30-7-9:20 Mon-Thu 5:40-8
Brave (PG) Fri 7:20 Sat-Sun 2:30-4:50-7:20 Mon-Thu 5:30
Dredd 3D (18A) Fri 9 Sat-Sun 10:10 Mon-Thu 7:30
Ice Age: Continental Drift 3D (G) Fri 6:30 Sat-Sun 1:20-3:30-5:40-8 Mon-Thu 5:10
Jab Tak Hai Jaan (PG) Fri 8:30 Sat-Sun 1:20-5:20-9 Mon-Thu 7:30
The Man With the Iron Fists (18A) Fri 7:40-10:20 Sat-Sun 2:50-5:30-7:40-10:20 Mon-Thu 5:30-7:40
Resident Evil: Retribution 3D (14A) Fri 7:30-9:50 Sat-Sun 2:20-4:40-7:30-9:50 Mon-Thu 5:50-8:10
Sinister (14A) Fri-Sun 9:40 Mon-Thu 7:50
Talaash (14A) Fri 6:50-9:45 Sat-Sun 1-3:50-6:50-9:45 Mon-Thu 5:20-8:20
Famous Players Kildonan Place
1555 Regent Ave W, 204-663-2166
Flight (18A) Fri 6:50-9:55 Sat-Sun 12:45-3:45-6:50-9:55 Mon-Thu 5:15-8:20
Red Dawn (14A) Fri 7:40-10:10 Sat-Sun 12:40-2:55-5:20-7:40-10:10 Mon-Thu 5:40-8:15
Rise of the Guardians (G) Fri 7:30-10 Sat-Sun 12:30-2:50-5:10-7:30-10 Mon-Thu 5:10-7:50
Skyfall (14A) Fri 6:45-10 Sat-Sun 12:30-3:40-6:45-10 Mon-Thu 5:30-8:30
The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 2 (14A) Fri 7:20-10:15 Sat-Sun 1:40-4:30-7:20-10:15 Mon-Thu 5:20-8:10
Wreck-It Ralph (G) Fri 7:10-9:45 Sat-Sun 1:10-3:50-7:10-9:45 Mon-Thu 5-8

Grant Park 8 Cinemas 1120 Grant Ave., 204-453-4084

Anna Karenina (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 3:45-7-9:55 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 12:50-3:45-7-9:55 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 3:45-7-9:55
Argo (14A) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 3:50-6:50-9:40 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 12:30-3:50-6:50-9:40 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 3:50-6:50-9:40
Flight (18A) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 3:15-6:30-9:35 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 12:15-3:15-6:30-9:35 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 3:15-6:30-9:35
Life of Pi (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 12:45
Life of Pi 3D (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 3:50-7:10-10:05
Lincoln (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 3:35-6:50-10 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 12:25-3:35-6:50-10 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 3:35-6:50-10
Rise of the Guardians (G) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 1
Rise of the Guardians 3D (G) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 4-7:15-9:45
Skyfall (14A) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 3:25-6:40-9:50 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 12:20-3:25-6:40-9:50 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 3:25-6:40-9:50
The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 2 (14A) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 3:40-6:35-9:30 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 12:40-3:40-6:35-9:30 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 3:40-6:35-9:30

IMAX Theatre at Portage Place Y003-393 Portage Avenue, 204-956-4629

Born to Be Wild (G) Wed 12:10
Born to Be Wild 3D (G) Fri 11:10 Sat 1:15 Tue 11
Coral Reef Adventure (STC) Fri 7:15 Wed 11
Egypt 3D: Secrets of the Mummies (STC) Mon 10-12:10
Everest (STC) Sat 1 Sun 2:45 Tue 12:15
Santa vs. The Snowman 3D (STC) Fri 12:10-5 Sat 12-5 Sun 12:30 Mon 11:10
Space Station (STC) Sat 7
To the Arctic 3D (STC) Fri 10-1:15-6:15 Sun 1:45 Mon 1:15 Wed 1:15
Landmark Globe Cinema
393 Portage Ave, 204-943-1583
Cloud Atlas (14A) Fri 7:30-9:30 Sat-Sun 1:30-3:30-7:30-9:30 Mon-Thu 7:30-9:30
Killing Them Softly (18A) Fri 7:15-9:40 Sat-Sun 1:15-3:40-7:15-9:40 Mon-Thu 7:15-9:40
Life of Pi (PG) Sat-Sun 3:50
Life of Pi 3D (PG) Fri 7-9:50 Sat-Sun 1-7-9:50 Mon-Thu 7-9:50

Landmark Towne Cinema 8 301 Notre Dame Avenue, 204-947-2848

Cloud Atlas (14A) Fri 7:15 Sat-Sun 1-7:15 Mon-Thu 7:15
Flight (18A) Fri 6:45-9:40 Sat-Sun 12:45-3:45-6:45-9:40 Mon-Thu 6:45-9:40
Red Dawn (STC) Fri 7-9:15 Sat-Sun 1:15-3:30-7-9:15 Mon-Thu 7-9:15
Rise of the Guardians (G) Sat-Sun 4
Rise of the Guardians 3D (G) Fri 7-9:15 Sat-Sun 1:15-7-9:15 Mon-Thu 7-9:15
Searching for Sugar Man (PG) Fri 7:15-9:30 Sat-Sun 1-9:30-7:15-9:30 Mon-Thu 7:15-9:30
Skyfall (14A) Fri 6:40-9:40 Sat-Sun 12:40-3:40-6:40-9:40 Mon-Thu 6:40-9:40
The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 2 (14A) Fri 7-9:30 Sat-Sun 12:45-3:30-7-9:30 Mon-Thu 7-9:30
Wreck-It Ralph (G) Sat-Sun 3:45
Wreck-It Ralph 3D (G) Fri 6:45-9:15 Sat-Sun 1:15-6:45-9:15 Mon-Thu 6:45-9:15

SilverCity Polo Park 815 St. James Street, 204-774-1001

Flight (18A) Fri-Sun 1:25-4:30-7:35-10:40 Mon-Tue 12:35-3:45-7:05-10:20 Wed 12:35-3:45-10:20 Thu 12:35-3:45-7:05-10:20
Home Alone (G) Sat 11
Jesus Christ Superstar UK Spectacular (STC) Sun 12:55 Wed 7
Killing Them Softly (18A) Fri 12:45-3:15-5:45-8:15-10:45 Sat 2-3:30-5:55-8:25-11 Sun 12:45-3:15-5:45-8:15-10:45 Mon-Tue 12:25-2:55-5:25-8-10:35 Wed 12:25-2:55-5:25-8-10:30 Thu 12:25-2:55-5:25-8-10:35
Life of Pi 3D (PG) Fri-Sun 1:30-4:35-7:40-10:45 Mon-Thu 1:10-4:15-7:20-10:25
Lincoln (PG) Fri-Thu 12:30-3:50-7:10-10:30
The Metropolitan Opera: La Clemenza Di Tito Live (STC) Sat 11:55
Pitch Perfect (PG) Fri 2-4:35-7:25-10:05 Sat-Sun 4:35-7:25-10:05 Mon-Tue 2-4:35-7:25-10:05 Wed 2-4:35-10:05 Thu 2-4:35-7:25-10:05
Red Dawn (14A) Fri 12:55-3:25-5:55-8:25-10:55 Sat 10:50-1:10-3:25-5:55-8:25-10:55 Sun 12:55-3:25-5:55-8:25-10:55 Mon-Thu 12:15-2:45-5:15-7:45-10:15
Rise of the Guardians (G) Fri 12:05 Sat 11:05-12:05 Sun 12:05 Mon-Tue 1:55 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1 Thu 1:55
Rise of the Guardians 3D (G) Fri-Sun 2:35-5:05-7:35-10:05 Mon-Thu 4:20-6:55-9:30
Silver Linings Playbook (14A) Fri-Sun 1:20-4:20-7:20-10:25 Mon-Tue 1:05-4:05-7:10-10:15 Wed 4:05-7:10-10:15 Thu 1:05-4:05-7:10-10:15 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
Skyfall (14A) Fri 11:55-12:25-3:40-7-9:55-10:30 Sat 10:50-11:55-12:25-3:40-7-9:55-10:30 Sun 11:55-12:25-3:40-7-9:55-10:30 Mon-Thu 12:05-12:30-3:40-7-9:50-10:20
Skyfall: The IMAX Experience (14A) Fri-Sun 12:50-4:10-7:30-11 Mon-Thu 1-4:10-7:30-10:45
The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 2 (14A) Fri-Sun 11:35-2:20-5:10-8-10:50 Mon-Thu 2:10-5-7:50-10:40 Fri 1:40-3:30-4:30-6:50-7:20-10:10 Sat 11-1:40-3:30-4:30-6:50-7:20-10:10 Sun-Thu 1:40-3:30-4:30-6:50-7:20-10:10
Wreck-It Ralph (G) Fri-Thu 12:20
Wreck-It Ralph 3D (G) Fri 2:55-5:30-8:05-10:35 Sat 10:55-2:55-5:30-8:05-10:35 Sun-Thu 2:55-5:30-8:05-10:35

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Here Comes the Boom (PG) Fri 5:05-10:10 Sat 5:30-10:30 Sun 5:05-10:05 Mon 3:30-10:30 Tue-Thu 5:05-10
Home Alone (G) Sat 11
Killing Them Softly (18A) Fri 12:45-3:15-5:45-8:15-10:45 Sat 12:45-3:40-5:55-8:25-10:55 Sun 12:45-3:15-5:40-8:10-10:35 Mon-Thu 12:45-3:15-5:45-8:10-10:30
Life of Pi 3D (PG) Fri-Sun 1:30-4:30-7:35-10:30 Mon-Thu 1:30-4:30-7:35-10:25
The Metropolitan Opera: La Clemenza Di Tito Live (STC) Sat 11:55
The Metropolitan Opera: Otello Encore (STC) Mon 6:30
Red Dawn (14A) Fri 12:55-3:25-5:50-8:20-10:50 Sat 1:15-3:25-5:50-8:20-10:50 Sun-Thu 12:55-3:25-5:40-8-10:20
Rise of the Guardians (G) Fri-Sun 12:10 Mon-Thu 12:20
Rise of the Guardians 3D (G) Fri-Sun 2:40-5:10-7:40-10:05 Mon-Thu 2:40-5:10-7:35-10
Skyfall (14A) Fri-Sat 12:20-12:50-3:40-4:10-7-7:30-10:15-10:50 Sun 12:20-12:50-3:40-4:10-7-7:30-10:15-10:40 Mon-Wed 12:30-1-3:40-4:05-6:55-7:20-10:05-10:30 Thu 1-4:05-5:30-7:20-8:45-10:30 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1
Taken 2 (14A) Fri 12:25-2:45-7:45 Sat 3:10-8:10 Sun 12:25-2:45-7:45 Mon 1 Tue-Thu 12:25-2:45-7:40
The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 2 (14A) Fri 11:50-2:30-5:10-7:55-10:40 Sat 11:40-2:20-5:10-7:55-10:40 Sun 12-2:40-5:10-7:50-10:30 Mon-Thu 1:50-4:30-7:20-10:05 Fri 1:40-4:20-7:20-10:10 Sat 11:05-1:40-4:20-7:20-10:10 Sun 1:40-4:20-7:20-10:10 Mon-Wed 1:20-4-6:50-9:30 Thu 4-6:50-9:30 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1
Wreck-It Ralph (G) Fri-Sun 12:15 Mon-Thu 12:25
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Up and coming pop superstar deals with inevitable comparisons, label problems

New music. The Diamonds singer, who saw some initial success in 2010, is back once again with a new album and approach

LUKE O'NEIL
scene@metronews.ca

Somebody thought this woman wasn't attractive enough to be a popstar? CASPAR BALSLEV

Upon the release of her 2010 debut LP, The Family Jewels, it was immediately apparent to anyone paying attention that Marina Diamandis, a.k.a. Marina and the Diamonds, was a bona fide international pop star in the making.

She had the acrobatic voice, indelible hooks and a crush-worthy look (more on that in a minute), but there was a knowingness about the idea of pop-stardom in general embedded in her lyrics that made her appealing to fans who take their pop with a dash of irony.

On her recent release, Electra Heart, the Welsh singer has doubled-down on the reaching-for-the-stars conceit, enlisting the aid of hit-making songwriters like Dr. Luke, Benny Blanco and Diplo.

It's Dr. Luke's effort on her first single, How to be a Heartbreaker, that has brought about so many comparisons to another pop star, Katy Perry, albeit with qualifiers like "edgier."

Is that supposed to be taken as a compliment or an insult?

"It's neither," says Diamandis. "It's not like an insult or a compliment, it's just not true. The thing is, with Dr. Luke, his style is so cemented, I think most people who work with him get his sound. Katy was his first huge success, so it's obvious I'm compared to her. I'm just like, 'Oh, whatever.'"

Also getting a big whatever was her record label's decision in September to delay the release of the Heartbreaker video because, well, they didn't think she looked attractive enough.

She got a call from her manager saying the label didn't like it, she explains: "'They think you need some beauty work,' he said. I said, 'I don't care if they think I'm ugly or not, they need to give me a budget if they want me to look botoxed within an inch of my life.'"

Not that she has a problem with that, she says. "I really don't mind. Everything on the album has been in spirit of that plastic pop element."

Quoted

"I think most people who work with him get his sound. Katy (Perry) was his first huge success."

Marina Diamandis
Talking about working with Dr. Luke, the man behind Katy Perry.

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Don't let these three tracks get lost in the confusion

SOUND CHECK
Alan Cross
scene@metronews.ca

With just a few exceptions, all the major releases are now in the stores. Don't miss out on Local Natives, Holy Ghost, Walk Off the Earth

1 Breakers/Local Natives

The first single from their second album, Hummingbirds. Sounds like they've learned a few things from touring with Arcade Fire.

2 It Gets Dark /Holy Ghost

Dark modern disco that may take you back to the dark electro-pop of the early '80s. If Depeche Mode were a new band today, they might sound like this.

3 Red Hands/ Walk Off the Earth

The band out of Burlington, Ont., famous for their cover of Gotye's Somebody That I Used to Know, offers this uplifting anthem from their new EP, R.E.V.O.

Steven Tyler found himself in the crosshairs of Nicki Minaj's latest emotional drama. FILE PHOTO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Steven Tyler offers up apology to Nicki Minaj

American Idol. Minaj claims he made racist statements; Aerosmith frontman says it was a misunderstanding

Steven Tyler is apologizing — if Nicki Minaj misinterpreted his recent comments.

The former American Idol judge and Aerosmith frontman responded to Minaj's claim that he's a racist.

Minaj took offence to comments Tyler made during an MTV interview in which he said Bob Dylan would likely be immediately dismissed from this year's show.

Idol premieres Jan. 16 on the Fox network with Minaj, Mariah Carey and Keith Urban serving as new judges. The rapper called the comment racist and fired an expletive at the Aerosmith frontman.

During an interview with the Canadian entertainment news program eTalk, Tyler spoke directly to Minaj, saying: "I apologize if it was taken wrong, Nicki."

"I am the farthest from — what did she say I was? — a racist." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Halle Berry

Halle's den of drama for sale, but she's waiting for the Berry best offer

Halle Berry is reportedly selling the Hollywood Hills mansion where her recent Thanksgiving celebrations ended in a brawl between fiancé Olivier Martinez and ex-boyfriend Gabriel Aubry, according to Hollyscoop. But the Oscar winner isn't unloading it because of the recent bad memories. Berry secretly listed the five-bedroom, 5,900 square-foot home a couple of weeks before Thanksgiving and received an $11 million offer last week, but she's holding out for more.

Two and a Half Men star to return to sitcom after mud sling

Angus T. Jones

Despite making news with a video in which he called Two and a Half Men filth and urged viewers to stop watching, Angus T. Jones will be returning to the hit sitcom when production picks back up in January, according to TMZ. "Angus expects to report to work after the holiday break," a source says. "He intends to honour his contract through the end of the season."

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word

Pull out the pre-written, Lindsay Lohan story template

THE WORD
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With all the divorces, marriages and arrests I report on, being a gossip columnist can sometimes feel like being in Groundhog's Day — and Lindsay Lohan is my Ned Ryerson.

Yes, the troubled starlet was arrested yet again for punching another woman at a New York City nightclub around 4 a.m. on Thursday morning. Lohan apparently was "partying hard" at the club, called Avenue, and was "looking for trouble," a source tells RadarOnline. That trouble manifested itself through a clubgoer named Tiffany Eve Mitchell. Apparently, Mitchell asked Lohan for a photograph. Lohan, who was "drinking heavily and doing cocaine," said no and was "really rude about it." Mitchell kept dancing but Lohan wouldn't let this infraction go. Again, from another eye-witness: "She totally sucker-punched that girl in the face out of nowhere! Nobody saw it coming," RadarOnline.com reports. "Lindsay went wild. She was kicking and screaming, cursing at the girl and then spat at her. The girl looked like she wanted to fight back at Lindsay, but was too startled by all the commotion to react."

So, the cops were called. Lohan was spotted attempting to leave the club, hopping into the passenger seat of her car before cops pulled her out and arrested her. Lohan was heard yelling, "Are you kidding me?" as she was led away, a source says.

She was released four hours later and given a citation and a court date. Being a refined wordsmith, I'm not good at math, but by my calculation, that is probably her one millionth court appointment to date.

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Give Martha Stewart a run for her money

First dinner party. Here are some tips to ensure your guests enjoy their evening

EMMA GODMERE
life@metronews.ca

Sure, beer and pizza are perennial party favourites. But treating guests to a home-cooked meal? Now there's a delicious accomplishment.

But if you're not the type to keep coasters and cocktail napkins on hand, have no fear: playing host isn't all that hard.

You don't even have to have a full-fledged dining room. Ottawa food blogger Kelly Brisson regularly seats her dinner guests around a large, folding card table that she easily stores away.

"Once the food's on it, no one really looks at the table anyway," she laughs.

Brisson has written about crafting simple, savoury meals on her blog, The Gouda Life, for the last four years, and is well-versed on dinner party do's and don'ts. The first thing a new host or hostess should keep in mind, she suggests, is keeping a cool head.

"You want to spend the day enjoying the process of cooking and just setting up the table the day of the party," she says.

Reduce your day-of duties by tidying your space the day before and preparing side dishes in advance that can be easily reheated prior to your guests' arrival. When it comes to the feat of the feast, consider items that you have cooked up before, or that you're comfortable making and know taste great.

Keep friends' dietary restrictions in mind as you plan your menu. No one should feel left out or think they have to bring their own dish.

That said, if a guest offers to bring something, it's smart to accept. "Let them help you out," says Brisson.

Stock up on ice, Brisson suggests, and extra wine and non-alcoholic beverages. Another tip: Craft a special cocktail to offer guests as they arrive. "It makes people feel welcome and it gives you something to talk about."

Most importantly? Have fun. "It's just dinner — whoever you've having over is there to eat and enjoy your company."

Preparation is one of the keys to a dinner party. ISTOCK

Curry Cauliflower Dip

1. Preheat oven to 375 F. Place cauliflower, garlic cloves, curry, cumin, cinnamon and salt into bowl. Drizzle with oil. Toss onto baking sheet and roast 15 minutes, until edges of florets are golden brown. Flip and roast another 8 minutes until everything is golden and fork-tender.

2. Place in food processor with Greek yogurt, lemon juice and a drizzle of olive oil and blend until smooth. Taste for seasoning and add more salt if necessary. Spoon into large bowl, add a touch more olive oil and sprinkle of cayenne pepper. Serve with veggies and pita.

- 1 head cauliflower, cut into bite-sized florets
- 4 cloves garlic, whole
- 1/2 tsp (2 ml) curry powder
- 1/4 tsp (1ml) ground cumin
- pinch cinnamon and salt
- olive oil
- 1/3 cup (75 ml) plain Greek yogurt
- 1 to 2 tbsp (15 to 30 ml) lemon juice
- cayenne pepper

COURTESY OF KELLY BRISSON, THEGOUDALIFE.CA

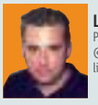
The last of the firsts

This is the final in a week-long series of articles chronicling some of the rites of passage many of Metro's readers will experience as they leave the nest or school and head out on their own.

- **Share.** Have you ever thrown a dinner party? Any tips you'd like to share? Visit metronews.ca/features/firsts, tweet or share with the person next to you.

Liquid Assets

Excellent dinner mates



LIQUID ASSETS
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While I like having people over to the house as much as the next guy, plotting a dinner party ranks just below ironing on my list of things I can't stand doing. I know I'm in the minority.

With more and more people DIYing their homesteads into dream palaces, the inclination to have friends over to enjoy the fruits of their labours — during a nice meal accented with a glass of wine — has never been stronger.

Finding an all-purpose dinner wine that will work well with a variety of menus while appealing to a wide range of picky palates isn't easy.

Pinot grigio is my go-to grape on the white side. Italy's Santa Margherita 2011 Pinot Grigio ($16.95 to $21.49) has a crisp, refreshing, lightly citrusy personality that makes a very accommodating table mate.

For a red people-pleaser, think sweet rather than dry. E & J Gallo's 2010 Apothic ($14.99 to $17.99) from California has a cocktail vibe to its ripe, just-crushed red berry fruit flavour, thanks to a supportive backbone of residual sugar. Add a slight chill and it pairs remarkably well with most main courses. **PRICES REFLECT THE RANGE ACROSS THE COUNTRY. SOME PRODUCTS MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE IN ALL PROVINCES.**

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Have a few gaps in your schedule you're looking to fill?
Whether you're hoping to dance, drink or just relax, check out these hot upcoming events.

MIX OF SIX
Meghan Duffy
winnipeg@metronews.ca

Burton Cummings brings it Home

On Wednesday at 8 p.m. Burton Cummings and band will be hitting the stage at… where else… the Burton Cummings Theatre. Burton is fresh from performing at the Grey Cup, where he proudly sang O Canada. (I must say he sang the French sections fairly well, although he needed a little help — good thing he wrote it down!) When you see Burt, make sure to point out his year-round support of Movember, it's always nice to see a 'stache supporter.

Miracle on Market Street

It will be a miracle when the City of Winnipeg finally finishes working on Market Street, however, do not let that spoil your plans on seeing the latest hit show at the Manitoba Theatre Centre. Miracle on South Division Street is meant to boost your holiday spirits while warming your belly with continuous laughs at the same time. The play focuses on Christmas and a big family secret that is about to be revealed … For tickets call 204-942-6537.

Jingle Bell Rock

No this is not the Christmas song you listened to growing up as a child whilst dancing around the Christmas tree… it's the name of the latest show by Theory of a Deadman and Big Wreck. Fans, mark Dec. 6 on your calendar, as that is the day they will be performing at the Burton Cummings Theatre. Reviews for this show have been mixed, however I always suggest going for yourself to check any band out, especially if you are already a fan. Tickets will put you out between $45 and $55

Step back to Medieval times

It's not often you get to see people dressed head to toe in Medieval attire — unless you're watching Robin Hood, The Seventh Seal, or even Ladyhawke, a 1985 classic. On Friday beginning at 7:30 p.m., the stage at the Pantages Playhouse will be filled with candles and instruments and the musicians will be decked out in their best medieval get-up for Winter Harp. It is assigned seating. Sadly, no cameras are allowed at this one, folks. Tickets are $40 each, so if you're interested, call 1-866-656-6838.

Calling all guitar enthusiasts

If you are a guitar player, you most likely know all about Jesse Cook. He is Canadian, and considered one of the most influential figures in nouveau flamenco. You will hear Latin-filled jazz and see his unique finger style. Tickets are available at ticketmaster for the Dec. 6 show at the Pantages Playhouse Theatre.

Laugh the chills away

Comedian Adam Carolla has done everything from hosting various television shows to being a contestant on Dancing with the Stars and even Trump's Celebrity Apprentice. He can be politically incorrect at times, however that is one trait people love about him — he says the things you are not supposed to say. His Nov. 30 show starts at 8 p.m. Find tickets at Ticketmaster.

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HOLIDAY 2012
gift guide

Take a byte out of the holidays

Galaxy Nexus 10 — $399.99 and up, below, MacBook Pro with Retina Display — $1,699 and up, bottom right, new iMac — $1,299 and up, bottom left.

MIKE YAWNEY
For Metro

Computers and tablets are always popular gifts during the holidays. Unfortunately, people are often lured by sales and promotions and fall into the trap of buying the wrong one.

Here's a look at the best tablets and computers so you don't disappoint your loved one this holiday season.

iPad Mini — $329 and up

All the features of Apple's iPad in a model you can hold in one hand. The iPad Mini is the perfect tablet for those on the move. It's small-form factor and light weight means you can stuff it into any bag or purse, yet it can do everything a full-sized iPad can do.

Surface — $499 and up

Microsoft's Surface has features not seen on other tablets. For starters, it comes preloaded with Windows 8, a new take on the classic stuffy operating system. A built-in kickstand gives you freedom to prop it up on any surface, while the Touch Cover (sold separately) not only protects the screen, it doubles as a keyboard. Surface also has a USB port that allows connectivity to many devices, including printers.

Galaxy Nexus 10 — $399.99 and up

Behold the tablet with the amazing screen. Google's Nexus 10 sports the highest resolution on any tablet with more than 4 million pixels in your hand; that's even more than Apple's new iPad. The beautiful screen makes it perfect to use it as an entertainment device, although it will handle any work you throw at it.

New iMac — $1,299 and up

Never has a computer looked this beautiful. Apple's new iMac is a mere five millimetres thin at its outer edge and has 40 per cent less volume than the previous generation. Beautiful yes, but it's also powerful. The latest iMacs contain third-generation Intel processors and has the option of a Fusion-Drive, which combines a traditional hard drive with Flash storage to ensure the programs you use the most launch from Flash storage at lightning speed.

HP SpectreOne — $1,299

Art meets technology. HP's SpectreOne looks like a traditional all-in-one PC, but its looks are deceiving. This Windows 8 PC features a 23.6-inch monitor that is actually a 10-point touchscreen display, so you can simply touch the screen instead of using the touchpad or keyboard. The SpectreOne also features a Beats Audio headphone jack and HDMI-in so you can watch external devices on the beautiful display.

Sony Vaio Tap 20 — $1,089.99

Is it an all-in-one computer or a tablet? Well, it's both. The secret is in the battery hidden in the screen. Since you don't have to plug it in, you can take the Tap 20 anywhere and use it as a tablet. Or set it up on a flat surface, pull out the keyboard and mouse and use it as a full-fledged computer. With a 20-inch screen it's certainly a large tablet, but who says that's a bad thing.

MacBook Pro with Retina Display — $1,699 and up

Spoil your eyes with Apple's latest MacBook Pro. This 13-inch laptop features state-of-the-art processors, amazing graphics capabilities and Flash storage. But the screen is the real draw here. It may be a bit pricier than many laptops in the same size category, but once you feast your eyes on the Retina display, you will have issues using anything else. Seeing is believing.

iPad Mini — $329 and up, left, Sony Vaio Tap 20 — $1,089.99, top left, HP SpectreOne — $1,299, above, Surface — $499 and up.

Correction

The Panasonic Lumix DMC-ZS20 retails for $379 and does not have 3-D capabilities. Incorrect information appeared in last week's Holiday Gift Guide. Metro regrets the error.

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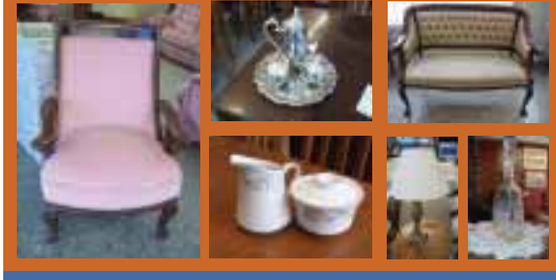

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My Little Pony Princess Cadance Pony, $24.99, available at Hasbro, hasbro.com.

Holiday Barbie, $49.99, available at Canadian Tire, canadian tire.ca.

Fureal Friends Bouncy My Happy-To-See-Me Pup, $49.99, available at Hasbro, hasbro.com.

Play-Doh Spin 'n Style Cinderella, $19.99, available at Hasbro, hasbro.com.

KLAPPAR CIRKUS soft toy, $5.99, available at Ikea, ikea.com/ca.

Deluxe Townhouse, $149.95, available at Indigo, chapters.indigo.ca.

Littlest Pet Shop Sing A Song Pets Assortment, $12.99, available at Hasbro, hasbro.com.

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Hot holiday finds for the hostess

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Limited Edition Nutcracker with Chocolates, $25, available at Indigo, chapters.indigo.ca.

Stockholm Tray, $19.99, available at Ikea, ikea.com.

Brass Wine Bucket, $59.99, available at Homesense, homesense.ca.

Cranberry Cosmo Set, $12.99, available at Shoppers Drug Mart, shoppersdrugmart.ca.

Winter Snowfall Dinnerware Set, $39.99, available at Canadian Tire, canadiantire.ca.

Cabin Sock Candy Tins – Maple Crunch, $12.95, available at Roots, canada.roots.com.

President's Choice Belgian Assorted Biscuit Collection, $4.99, available where President's Choice products are sold, presidentschoice.ca.

Skateboard and shoes from SK8. Penguin and toolbox from Kite & Kaboodle. Candy from Sweetz. Toque from Global Connections.

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downtown

Recipe. Sweet and Salty Shortbread Mounds

This recipe for delightful treats makes about 5 dozen cookies. Enjoy!

Ingredients:

- 1 cup softened Gay Lea Unsalted Butter
- 1 cup instant dissolving sugar
- 1/2 cup smooth peanut butter
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- 2 ¼ cups all-purpose flour
- ½ tsp salt
- ½ cup crumbled, salted pretzel sticks
- ½ cup chopped, salted roasted peanuts

Chocolate Glaze:

- ¾ cup semi-sweet chocolate chips
- 3 tbsp Gay Lea Unsalted Butter
- 1 tbsp corn syrup

Instructions:

Beat the butter with the sugar, peanut butter and vanilla until fluffy. Beat the flour and salt into the butter mixture just until combined. Stir in the pretzels and peanuts. Chill for 15 minutes.

Roll 1 tbsp portions of the dough into balls. Arrange the balls, about 1-inch apart, on parchment paper-lined baking sheets. Chill for 30 minutes.

Preheat the oven to 325°F. Bake, in batches, for 14 to 16 minutes or just until pale golden on the bottom (do not over-bake). Cool completely on the baking sheets.

Chocolate Glaze: Melt chocolate chips with butter and corn syrup until smooth.

Dip the top of each cookie into the chocolate mixture. Sprinkle with additional finely chopped pretzels and peanuts to garnish. Let stand until chocolate is set.

Tip:

Store in an airtight container at room temperature for up to one week.

RECIPE COURTESY OF GAY LEA FOODS CO-OPERATIVE LTD.

Sweet and Salty Shortbread Mounds. CONTRIBUTED

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TUESDAY, DECEMBER 25
Christmas Day Dinner
TWO SEATINGS:
3:30PM & 6:00PM
Carved Roast Turkey with Stuffing
Cranberry Sauce and Gravy
Sweet & Sour Sauce Meatballs
Mashed Potato
Perogies with Fried Onions
Honey Glazed Carrots
Tossed Green Salad and Caesar Salad
Potato Salad
Macaroni Salad
Coleslaw
Vegetable Tray / Cheese Tray / Relish Tray
Seafood Tray
Fresh Fruit Tray and Assorted Dessert Table
Dinner Rolls & Butter
Coffee, Decaf, Tea & Pop Included
Adults $24.95 Seniors $22.95

MONDAY, DECEMBER 31
NEW YEAR'S EVE DINNER
4:00PM & 10:00PM
Your Choice of Appetizers
Shrimp Cocktail
Tomato Ricotta Bruchetta
Choice of Soup
Bison Consume with Vegetable Garnish
Beer & Cheddar Soup
Choice of Salad
Caesar Salad
Field Green with Almonds, Sundried Cranberries
Your Choice of Entrees
10oz New York Steak with Yorkshire Pudding $35.95
8oz Filet Mignon with Bordelaise Sauce $37.95
Camembert Stuffed Chicken, Raspberry Sauce $34.95
Veal Marsala $34.95
Grilled Salmon with Champagne Hollandaise Sauce $34.95
Penne Rigate with Sundried Tomato & Garden Vegetables Rose Sauce $25.95
All above Entrees come with Asparagus Parmesan and Honey Glazed Julienne Carrots all above Entrees with the exception of the Pasta come with your choice of Starch
Choice of Starch
Crown Stuffed Potato
Baked Potato
Rice Pilaf
Choice of Desserts
Caramel Decadence
High 5
Orange Blossom
New York Cheesecake
Childrens Menu
Chicken Fingers & Fries $9.95
6oz Steak Sandwich $12.75
Cheese Burger & Fries $8.75
includes Ice Cream

DECEMBER 25TH
TAKE OUT TURKEY
TURKEY DINNER
$169.95 plus taxes
HAM DINNER
$129.99 plus taxes
PICKUP TIMES
10AM-4PM
FEEDS 8-10 ADULTS
CARVED TURKEY EXTRA $15
EXTRA APPLE PIE $10 plus taxes
15 - 17 LB TURKEY
2 LITRES GRAVY
2 LITRES MASHED POTATOES
2 LITRES SAGE DRESSING
3 LITRES MIXED VEGETABLES
(corn, peas, carrots)
1 LITRE CRANBERRY SAUCE
12 DINNER ROLLS
1 APPLE PIE

TUESDAY, JANUARY 1 2013
NEW YEAR'S DAY DINNER
TWO SEATINGS:
3:30PM & 6:00PM
Carved Roast Beef with Au Jus
Roast Pork Loin
Southern Fried Chicken
Swedish Meatballs
Perogies with Fried Onions
Scallop Potato
Medley Veggie
Tossed Green Salad and Caesar Salad
Potato / Macaroni / Ham / Cheese Salad
Coleslaw
Vegetable Tray / Cheese Tray / Relish Tray
Seafood Tray
Fresh Fruit Tray and Assorted Dessert Table
Dinner Rolls & Butter
Coffee, Decaf, Tea & Pop Included
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A screen shot from Assassin's Creed III, the third game in the series that features vast expanses. CONTRIBUTED

Take aim at these video game titles

Gaming gifts. You might want to buy a copy for yourself, too

KAREN FALCON
For Metro

If you have a gamer on your list, we're here to help. We've played a bunch of stuff (all less than $60 MSRP) and narrowed it down to the hottest titles available this holiday season. Just remember to buy two — one for them, and one for you.

FOR THE TEEN GAMER AND OLDER:
Borderlands 2
Multi-platform: M
Best shooter! Best RPG! Best DLC (with promises of more)! Best characters! Best (and most) guns in all of video game land! We're pretty sure this is the best of everything and it's all rolled into one package of awesomeness. I don't know how else to tell you this might be "the" game to gift. It's just that good. The single player is grand, the co-op is equally as grand, and the DLC just makes me smile. Not sure if you have heard, but lootin' 'n shootin' are the most fantastic things since sliced bread. Well, that and reloading, tossing out the empty clip, and having it explode like a grenade. We don't think there's anything more enjoyable than reloading and yelling "frag out." Nope, nuthin'.

Halo 4
Xbox 360: M
Wake up, Master Chief! Wake up! It's time to wander around space in your Spartan suit while looking really cool, shooting aliens, and being surrounded with the best graphics we've seen in recent memory. Wow — just wow. Full of everything you expect from the franchise plus a whole lot more — this instalment is the beginning of a whole new saga to save mankind. With new enemies and new ways to track your stats, you can co-op and/or multiplayer your way through this award-winning blockbuster game all the way into 2014. And you know you can make your own multiplayer maps, too, right?

Assassin's Creed III
Multi-platform: M
Free-running is where it's at and you'll need to set aside three solid weeks of your life to do it. Set in Boston, New York, and the frontier, overflowing with incredible attention to detail, the third game in this series does not disappoint. With a new engine, vast expanses to play in, tree canopies to run through, beavers to assassinate, and ships to sail across the seas, staying incognito has never been a more enjoyable challenge. As America's first highly trained Master Assassin, you get a plethora of weapons: Swords, a bow and arrow, some rope darts, a bunch of other stuff, and a tomahawk. Tomahawks are fun — you'll see.

Forza Horizon
Xbox 360: T
Dirt tracks, music festivals, and graphics that will knock your socks off — yes, Forza Horizon is all that and more. No longer the straight-laced racing sim you've come to associate with the name Forza, this title is more like an open-world, racing fun exploring explosion. With hidden cars, 250 events, and a solid AI that takes solo or multiplayer racing into a whole new experience, new fans and old will be driving through signs, painting their cars, destroying some landscaping, and racing their dream cars against aeroplanes. Yes, I said aeroplanes. So good.

Gifts that amuse — and enlighten

Family fun. Learning while gaming? Check out these new titles

KAREN FALCON
For Metro

More hot video game titles, this time for the kid gamer (and their parents, too).

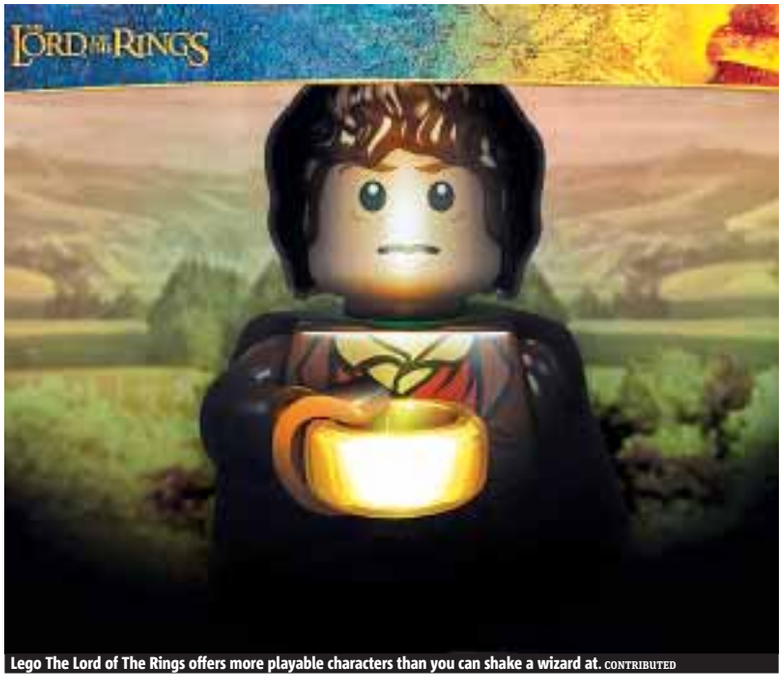
Lego The Lord of The Rings
Multi-platform: E10+
Take a little hobbit, turn him into Lego, give him a bunch of friends and a shovel, send him out into a vast Lego universe to protect a ring, and you end up with a monumental adventure full of epic battles, Lego bows, and Lego swords. With more playable characters than you can shake a wizard at, this two-player drop-in/drop-out action-adventure game can be played pretty much until your hands fall off. What's cuter than a Lego hobbit? Mom playing as Gandalf, that's what.

And then there's motion-sensitive gaming. It's like crack for kids. But it's magic — they don't know they're learning stuff but they are. Education and gaming together, you say? How? Specifically for the Xbox 360, it's the Kinect Sensor peripheral ($109 MSRP), and the following whack of engaging titles is available for you to gift in the name of fun and learning.

Dance Central 3: T
Four decades of dance moves will have your kids learning original routines while dancing (a.k.a. working out, but don't tell them that) and wearing out the carpet. Seriously voice controlled and packed with more than 40 songs from yesterday and today, Dance Central 3 also includes a brand spanking new multiplayer mode for up to eight players.

Kinect Sesame Street
If you take real segments from Sesame Street and add motion-sensitive gaming, you get a one-of-a-kind interactive learning experience. Rated Early Childhood, this immersive title allows your child to play catch with Elmo, count coconuts with Grover, use voice commands to take pictures, and engage with some of their other favourite Sesame Street characters.

Nat Geo TV: E10+
Rwaar! I'm a bear! You can be a bear and you can learn about bears. Never before has discovering the natural world been so interactive — right in your own living room. With the brilliant combination of live-action footage from Nat Geo WILD TV, tiny quizzes and breaks for motion-sensitive mini-games.



Lego The Lord of The Rings offers more playable characters than you can shake a wizard at. CONTRIBUTED

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Inspire others with green gift options

LISA BORDEN
YummyMummyClub.ca

Instead of careening madly around stores, desperately purchasing gifts this holiday season (translation: Possibly useless stuff that is not needed or wanted), make the getting and giving of gifts green this year.

The green present is one that inspires people to live healthier lives, makes the world a better place, supports good people and companies, doesn't contribute excess litter and waste, and makes your getters very happy.

To help you in your quest to give the perfect green gifts, here are some great ideas for the holiday season:

SHARE YOUR OWN GIFTS

Make something (cookies? bread?) and deliver it once a month. Offer up what you are good at (babysitting? handiwork?) and give as a gift certificate. You can even collect your favourite recipes and put them into a recipe box.

GIVE GIFTS THAT ARE INDULGENT (BUT NOT REALLY!)

Why not give an organic hot/cold therapy pillow, or fair trade chocolate, coffee, or tea?

GIVE A GIFT THAT ISN'T A THING

Give a membership to a museum or art gallery, or a night out at the movies, a tree to plant, a weekend away, tickets to a concert, or a donation to a favourite charity.

Making cookies and delivering them once a month is a present that may inspire others to make the world a better place. GEORGE DOYLE/STOCKBYTE/THINKSTOCK

GIVE GIFTS THAT KEEP ON GIVING

Reusable water bottles (not plastic!) and reusable grocery bags make great gifts.

Or you can even send local weekly fruit and vegetable boxes.

BE CREATIVE

Use reusable containers or bags to package. Use old newspapers, magazines or comics to wrap. Use scarves, bandanas, belts or shoelaces to tie. Use fresh herbs, old buttons or cut-up textiles to adorn.

AND HINTS FOR THE DAY AFTER ...

Wrapping paper and ribbon from others: Re-use.

The big pile of holiday cards from everyone: Recreate (make them into note cards).

Unneeded and unwanted stuff: Re-gift.

Family and friends: Remind them that next year they can do what you have done so well this year.

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NHL lockout

Bettman proposes new plan as mediation fails

After arriving at another dead end in negotiations, the NHL and NHL Players' Association emerged from two days of mediation with a new direction to consider.

Commissioner Gary Bettman proposed Thursday that the leadership from both sides step aside for the next bargaining session, leaving a group of owners and players to try and break the stalemate.

"After spending several hours with both sides over two days, the presiding mediators concluded that the parties remained far apart, and that no progress toward a resolution could be made through further mediation at this point in time," deputy commissioner Bill Daly said Thursday in a statement.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

NHL

Wild goalie diagnosed with multiple sclerosis

Minnesota Wild goalie Josh Harding has been diagnosed with multiple sclerosis.

The Wild confirmed Thursday that Harding is undergoing treatment for the disease, which attacks the body's immune system and affects the central nervous system.

The 28-year-old Harding told the Minneapolis Star Tribune he plans to keep playing. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Josh Harding
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Coyotes captain Shane Doan sent out word that there would be a mini-camp this week, luring players to Scottsdale, Ariz. About 30 players showed up to work out and play in scrimmages simulating game speed. CHRISTIAN PETERSEN/GETTY IMAGES FILE

Arizona an oasis for locked-out NHLers

Looking for action. Players from across North America descend on star-studded scrimmages in desert

Quoted

"It just picks up the competitiveness and everyone wants to prove that they're capable of playing and it's a lot of fun."

Phoenix Coyotes captain Shane Doan

Phoenix Coyotes goalie Mike Smith lowered into a crouch as the odd-man rush developed in front of him.

The puck went to the left wing and he followed, lodging his skate against the post. A touch pass sent the puck across the front of Smith's crease and he slid over in a flash, whipping his right pad out for a sprawling save, setting off a collective "Oh!" from fans lining the glass behind him.

NHL players on the ice, competing hard, fans cheering them on — it almost felt like a real game.

Of course, it was only a scrimmage in front of a couple hundred people at the Coyotes' practice facility, but as the NHL lockout drags on, fans — and the players — will take anything they can get.

"This is awesome," said Jane Pittet of Scottsdale, Ariz., who left work to catch Thursday's workout at the Ice Den. "I wish it were the real thing, but this is fun to watch."

The Phoenix Coyotes have been holding informal workouts at their practice rink since the lockout started and this week were joined by more than a dozen players from around the league.

Pittsburgh star Sidney Crosby, San Jose forward Patrick Marleau, Buffalo goalie Ryan Miller and Dallas forward Brendan Morrow all made the trip to the desert to skate with the Coyotes.

It was a chance to step up in competition and play against someone other than their teammates.

"It was fun to be out there and, OK, I've actually got to stop this puck," Miller said. "I kind of tried to pretend I was back in front of the home crowd and had to make a stop, so it was good."

The Coyotes have had good turnouts for their player-organized workouts, skating with a dozen or so players who haven't gone to play overseas or in the AHL, while a handful of players from other teams have occasionally joined in.

Crosby helped organize a couple of gatherings in Dallas and Vail, Colo., and the group headed to Arizona this week to join the Coyotes.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Creehan returning to Bombers fold

Casey Creehan is rejoining the Blue Bombers as their new defensive co-ordinator and linebackers coach.
THE CANADIAN PRESS/HAMILTON SPECTATOR

Casey Creehan is rejoining old pal Tim Burke and the Winnipeg Blue Bombers as their new defensive co-ordinator and linebackers coach, the CFL club announced Thursday.

This move — unlike Chris Jones' hotly debated defection from Calgary to Toronto last year — was done with the blessing of Creehan's now former boss, Hamilton Tiger-Cats head coach George Cortez.

"He knows that Casey and I are tight, much like his relationship with John Hufnagel in Calgary," said Burke, when asked why Cortez would sanction the lateral shift.

It's also true that Hamilton, like the Bombers, had issues on defence last season, with both teams out of the playoff picture.

Quoted

"What I see is a team that has gotten tremendously better in terms of talent over the years and the one man responsible for that the most more than anybody is (Bombers GM) Joe Mack."

Bombers new defensive co-ordinator Casey Creehan, heaping praise on his former and new boss

Burke says Hamilton had a lot of injuries to deal with, particularly in the secondary.

"The better defences have continuity and consistency and that's one thing we were unable to get done over there in Hamilton in my short stint there," added Creehan.

Burke said Winnipeg had similar problems, but not because of rookies. He noted four road games opened the season because of construction delays on the new Winnipeg stadium.

Burke says he has already had words with the defence about some aspects of their game he felt were lacking.

"I believe we have the talent; we just have to have the great desire and effort.... When we come back we're going to have the great desire and effort or we're going to be making some changes."

Creehan says he likes the idea of working with a more experienced crew, most of them dating back to his time with the Bombers.

"There's something to be said for experience in this league. That's one of the things I'm looking forward to in coming back to Winnipeg," he said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

4 SPORTS

Horoscopes

Aries
March 21 - April 20
Life is good and getting better by the moment but for some strange reason you seem to be fearing the worst at the moment. Don't worry, whatever disaster you think is lurking round the next corner will fail to materialize.

Taurus
April 21 - May 21
Steer clear of disputes and disagreements that have nothing directly to do with you. If you allow yourself to be dragged in by one side or the other, you may never get out again — and you'll lose friends on both sides.

Gemini
May 22 - June 21
You have worked hard to get to your present position in life, so don't feel guilty just because not everyone hasn't been as fortunate as you. Lady Luck smiles most on those who deserve it — and you do.

Cancer
June 22 - July 23
An opportunity to get on in the world will arrive out of the blue today or over the weekend. It could mean a promotion but it could also mean that you pack a bag and travel to some exotic land.

Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
You have accomplished a lot this year but you know you are capable of more, so step up a gear and let the world know what a special individual you are. The planets will do something to give you a push today.

Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
You need to get over the idea that everyone sees the world the same way as you. If nothing else, it puts you at a disadvantage by making it hard for you to take on board other people's insights and discoveries.

Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
You must find time in your busy schedule to let partners and loved ones know how much you care for them. On the home front, especially, you seem to have been a bit distant of late. Do some fun things together today.

Scorpio
Oct. 2 04 - Nov. 22
Don't worry if certain people seem less than enthusiastic about your plans because most likely they are jealous and want to see you fail. You won't, of course. You'll succeed brilliantly and won't let them forget it.

Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
If you do small favours for other people now, they will do big favours for you later on. So, make an effort and make friends with those you interact with both personally and professionally. You may need their help soon.

Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
An opportunity to move up in the world will come your way today and you must grab it with both hands. It will certainly mean more work and more responsibility but since when have you been a stranger to those?

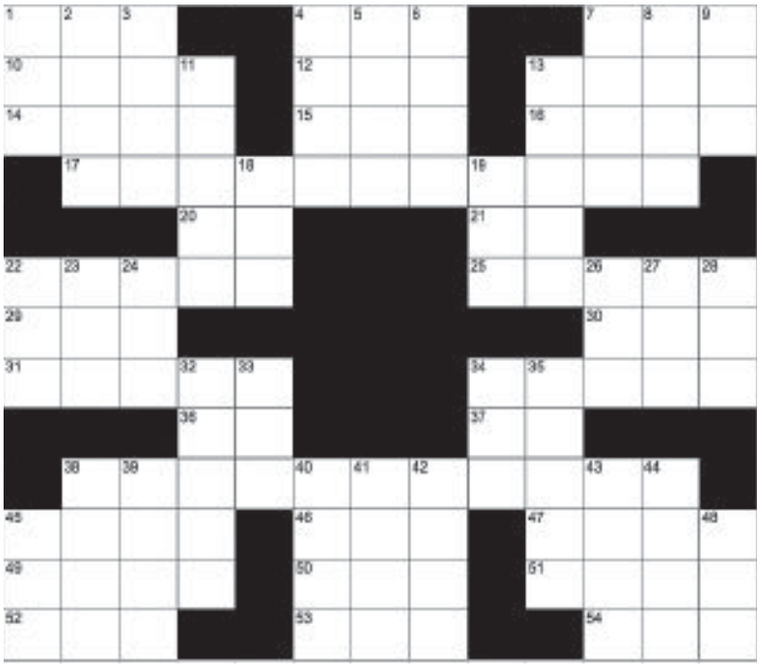
Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
You need to make amends for something you did or something you said a while back. It may not have been your intention to be hurtful but the fact is you were and egos can be such fragile things.

Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
Make sure you get the respect you deserve from those you work with. Sometimes you can be a bit too easygoing for your own good but today you really must put your own needs first.

SALLY BROMPTON

Crossword

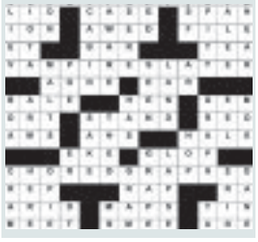
BY BETTY MARTIN



Across
1. Request
4. Wise old bird
7. Alice spin-off
10. Ogle
12. Prior to
13. "A Simple —"
14 Courtroom bargain
15. Plural suffix
16. Flying (prefix)
17. Novice workers
20. "That is" Latin abbr.
21. Gone with the Wind actress Olivia – Havilland
22. Tons
25. Emmy cousin
29. Time Warner cable network (abbr.)
30. Casual greeting
31. Sour
34. Frighten away
36. He played "Dirty Harry" (init.)
37. Ready – Not
38. One who finishes hair (2 words)
45. West Germany capital
46. Yes, to Angus
47. Only
49. Eager
50. Late night weekend skit show (init.)
51. Predecessor of Johnny Carson
52. Microsoft internet site (abbr.)
53. Predatory fish
54. Resort

Down
1. Swiss mountain
2. Actress Ward of Once and Again
3. Save for oneself
4. Sheriff Taylor's son
5. Songbird
6. — We Forget
7. On the lam
8. Phyllis's never seen husband on Mary Tyler Moore
9. Mrs. John Lennon
11. Speedy
13. Walks back and forth
18. Telephone book listing (abbr.)
19. Wedding vows
22. — Na Na
23. Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (abbr.)
24. Agency of Record (abbr.)
26. Part of a Dancing with the Stars dance
27. — Lingus
28. Deli bread
32. Cake covering
33. James Van – Beek of Don't Trust the B—in Apartment 23
34. Sun God
35. Curl
38. Swine
39. Soon
40. Envelope abbr.
41. Actress Daly of Judging Amy
42. Scream
43. Oceans
44. Ensnare
45. Emeril's favourite expression
48. Time frame

Yesterday's Crossword



What's online

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.

Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

	5		7		4		8	
			9		5			
8		9				2		7
		4	5		7	1		
7								4
		2	1		9	8		
5		1				3		8
			8		6			
	6		3		1		9	

Yesterday's Sudoku

Weather

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
MAX: -3° MIN: -14°	MAX: -3° MIN: -9°	MAX: -6° MIN: -7°

BT BREAKFAST TELEVISION

JENNA KHAN
WEATHER SPECIALIST
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2012 FORD FOCUS HATCHBACK SE

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MSRP: ~~$24,299~~

SALE PRICE:

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MSRP: ~~$28,849~~

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4X4, LEATHER, POWER MOONROOF, ROOF RACK, 3 TO CHOOSE FROM

2012 FORD ESCAPE LIMITED

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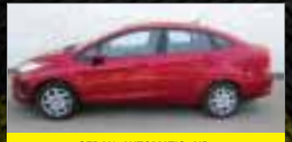


SEDAN, AUTOMATIC, AIR, POWER LOCKS/WINDOWS

2011 FORD FIESTA SE

$12,899* / $97*

4X4, INCLUDES CHROME RIMS, FOG LAMPS, PWR GROUP, BLUETOOTH, CHROME BOARDS

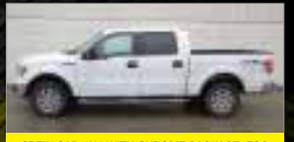
2010 FORD F-150 S/CREW XLT XTR

$25,449* / $111*

CREW CAB, 4X4, 105TH ANNIVERSARY EDITION, MUST SEE!

2008 FORD F-150 HARLEY DAVIDSON

$28,899* / $209*



CREW CAB 4X4 WITH CHROME PACKAGE, FOG LIGHTS, SAT RADIO, ECO BOOST

2012 FORD F-150 XLT XTR 4X4

$31,899* / $219*

4X4, LEATHER, AUTOMATIC, ROOF RACK, CREW CAB, POWER GROUP

2008 NISSAN FRONTIER

$19,699* / $158*

HEATED SEATS, AIR, SAT RADIO, AUTOMATIC, 75000 KMS

2008 FORD FOCUS SES

$8,498* / $99*

ALL WHEEL DRIVE, POWER GROUP, HEATED SEATS, ROOF RACK, GREAT CONDITION

2011 FORD EDGE SEL

$29,659* / $219*

INCLUDES POWER EQUIP, AIR, SAT RADIO, ONLY 6000 KMS, MUST SEE!

2012 FORD ESCAPE XLT 4X4

$23,899* / $169*

POWER EQUIPMENT GROUP, MANUAL TRANSMISSION, GREAT CITY CAR!

2010 PONTIAC G3

$8,688* / $77*

POWER GROUP, AIR, CRUISE, AUTOMATIC

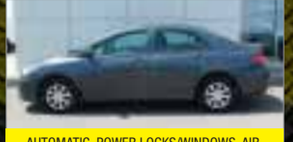
2012 FORD FOCUS SE

$16,499* / $107*

S/CAB, XTR, FOG LAMPS, CHROME BOARDS AND RIMS, AIR, CRUISE TOW PKG

2008 FORD F-150 XLT 4X4

$16,899* / $119*



AUTOMATIC, POWER LOCKS/WINDOWS, AIR, CRUISE, CD/MP3 PLAYER

2011 TOYOTA COROLLA

$14,899* / $99*

4X4, LOADED! LEATHER, POWER GROUP, AIR, CRUISE, MUST SEE!

2005 CHEV AVALANCHE LTZ 4X4

$14,587*

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2012 FORD FUSION SEL AWD

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